The Hurricane and Flood of 1938
by
Girls and Boys
Connecticut Supervisory District #7

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This bulletin contains stories, poems, illustrations and songs based on children's experiences relating to the Hurricane and Flood of September 1938.

Copies of this bulletin will be placed in each classroom and in every town library in the district. Teachers and children are urged to rebind these bulletins with durable covers so they may become a part of their permanent classroom libraries.

The purpose of the bulletin is to make it possible for teachers and pupils to share experiences of children in other schools and to make a permanent historical record of the children's impressions and experiences during and following the hurricane and flood of September 1938.

In some classrooms, the material was prepared spontaneously by the children immediately after they returned to school, and in other classrooms the stories show that some special attention was given to the study of descriptive words suitable for the stories of hurricanes and floods before the stories and poems were written.

Many of the classrooms have interesting books made and illustrated by the children telling about their own experiences and the causes and effects of hurricanes and floods. Many of their lovely pictures could not be used in this bulletin because much of their charm was due to the colors used.

Credit is given to Miss Dorothy Southey for the reproduction of illustrations and the mimeographing.

It is not possible to reproduce many excellent things in a bulletin of this type, but it does give a fair sampling of the variety of experiences. We believe the variety should be extended and we hope that as children and teachers examine this material they will be stimulated to extend their interests far beyond the topics in this bulletin.

F. J. Penley, Supervisor
Dorothy Southey, Secretary
Margaret Gustin, Assistant Supervisor

District #7

Bureau of Field Service
Connecticut State Department of Education
Unionville, Connecticut

Mimeographed February 1939.

TEACHERS OF DISTRICT - 1938-1939

Town of Avon

School	Teacher	Grade
Towpath	Harmon W. Smith	7-8
"	Ruth Mirick	5-6
"	Veronica Shea	4-5
"	Kathleen Leonard	2-3
"	Ida Parrella	1-2
Avon Heights	Adelaide Snow	7-8
" "	Virginia Smith	4-6
" "	Charlotte Buck	1-3
Lovely Street	Carolyn Becker	1-8
Pine Grove	Eileen Felth	1-8

Town of Granby

School	Teacher	Grade
Granby Street	Vanya Whiton	5-8
" "	Dorothy Silcox	1-4
North Granby	Harriet Newton	5-8
" "	Helen Schonna	1-4
Floydville	Helen Spring	1-6
Cooley	Dorothea Kosischko	1-8
Case Street	Ruth Freytag	1-8
Upper West	Mary Sogan	1-8
Lower West	Florence Smith	1-8
Bushy Hill	Rose McMahon	1-8

Town of Burlington

School	Teacher	Grade
Riverside	M. Adeline Woods	6-8
"	Wanda Marciniec	3-5
"	Florence Hayes	1-2
Whigville	Elizabeth Lowrey	5-8
"	Helen Tolpin	1-4
Center	Mabel Weekes	1-8
Fourth	Kathryn Kinville	1-8
Holcomb	Jennie Bryck	1-8

Town of East Granby

School	Teacher	Grade
Center	Marie Smith	6-8
"	Flora Gelormino	1-5
Falls	Olga Tillema	5-8
"	Viola Caruso	1-4
South	Eleanor Pfeiffer	1-7

Town of Canton

School	Teacher	Grade
Collinsville	A. L. MacMasters	8
"	Sally Parsons	7
"	M. E. Ashmore	6
"	Mildred Hendrickson	5
"	Anna Jahn	4
"	Pauline Sandmeyer	3
"	Alma Stone	2
"	Carmel DiRuccio	1
Canton Street	Anna Sogan	1-5
Canton Center	Theresa DelGrande	1-4
South Center	Agnes King	5-8
North Canton	May Aldrich	1-8
East Hill	Millicent Bailey	1-8

Town of Rocky Hill

School	Teacher	Grade
Center	Myrtle Stevens	8
"	Marjorie Libby	7
"	Mary Chester	6
"	Bertha Lunnie	5
"	Esther Atwell	4
"	Ruth Desmond	3
"	Ruby Armstrong	2
"	Marjorie Melody	1
West	Mary Kozlak	7-8
"	Eleanor Leahy	4-6
"	Rita McGrath	1-3
South	Emma Aveyard	4-6
"	Mary Morley	1-3

Music Supervisors

Avon-Canton	Elsie J. Longan
East Granby	Helen M. Johnson
Granby	Annie E. Crouse
Rocky Hill	Anne R. Robbins

TOWN OF AVON

A Big Hurricane

Some people do not know how a hurricane comes. I will tell you now. When the sun goes over the equator, it causes a disturbance which makes a hurricane. The sun went over the equator September 21, and there was a hurricane in Connecticut. Trees were uprooted. Some fell onto the houses and broke windows. Tidal waves came in and washed away cottages along the shore. Some people were in the cottages when they were washed away by the flood waters. Many of the people were drowned, but some were saved by hanging onto one of the timbers of their house as it floated in the water. Bridges broke and were washed away. They are fixing the bridge in Unionville that was washed away. It was raining when all this happened.

Alfred Brown, Grade 4, Avon Heights School

A Hurricane

The wind roared. The rain poured. It looked as if the heavens had burst open. The wind was blowing with all its might. After it stopped, oh what a sight!

Philip Block, Grade 5, Avon Heights School

A Bad Storm

On September 21st, we had a bad storm. It was a hurricane and flood combined. The water swept out houses and bridges. The wind knocked down trees on top of cars and barns and telephone poles. The wires were on the ground and trees were across the street so the cars had to turn around and go back the way they came. In Burlington it took down some of the mountain so the cars had to turn around. We did not have much of a hurricane here, but down in New Haven and up in Winsted, it was very bad. There were big tidal waves out on the ocean. We got the tail end of the hurricane. It uprooted Nixon's big pine tree. The flood water came way up over the Collinsville bridge and it washed away a barn that was near the arch. We hope it will never happen again.

Clinton Nikstad, Grade 6, Avon Heights School

The Hurricane

We had a hurricane. The wind blew many trees down. It blew a big poplar down. It knocked down five electric light poles. We had to use candles.

Otto Hackbarth, Grade 3, Avon Heights School

The Hurricane

We had a hurricane. People's hats were flying. Trees fell on houses. The wind blew a garage over. A tree fell on a car. Roofs flew off the houses. We had to use candles. Some people had their houses flooded. We did not have school. We had a very bad week.

Lois Foss, Grade 3, Avon Heights School

The Hurricane

We had a hurricane. The wind blew very very hard. People could not stand up. Telephone poles were broken. Many bridges were broken. Trees were uprooted. Many people were killed.

Group Story, Grade 2, Avon Heights School.

The Flood and Hurricane

In the third week of September we had much rain which caused rivers and lakes to rise. Then on Wednesday the twenty-first, we had a hurricane. It knocked down live wires, trees, and some houses. My sister and I had just arrived home from school and soon it began to pour. Then the wind would blow and soon the wind blew and blew very hard and knocked two limbs off from our elm tree. We were all very frightened. After it stopped raining and the wind stopped blowing, we had to get the limbs out of the driveway and chop them up. Later we went down town to see the sights. The town was very dark because there was no electricity and the stores used candles and kerosene lamps. We went up to River Road and it was flooded. The men had dug a ditch to prevent the water from flooding further. On Thursday the water in Collinsville went down, and the men started cleaning up the roads. On Friday I went to Colebrook River for a visit. It also had been flooded but not many trees were down. The roads were all torn up and there were many large stones in them. About five houses were demolished. Many others were full of mud. A large bridge was torn down and parts could be seen in the water. This was the most terrible flood of the west branch of the Farmington River.

Lona Squire, Grade 8, Avon Heights School

The Hurricane

Wednesday afternoon we went to Hartford to get my father after work. While we were waiting, the wind began to blow and it started to rain. A big tree fell on another car that was waiting. There were two women in the car, but they did not get hurt. On the way home we saw that a big pane of glass in a window had fallen out. In front of the "Times Building" a big flag pole fell across the street and smashed the hood of a car. There was so much traffic that it took an hour to get from East Hartford to Hartford. Roofs from the buildings were flying over our heads. When we got home, a big tree had fallen across our road. We had no lights for a week. My father could not go to work for a week. We were out in the storm from start to finish.

Dorothy Foss, Grade 7, Avon Heights School

The Hurricane

A heavy rain started on Monday morn,
It ruined gardens and crops of corn,
When Wednesday came the wind blew and blew
Houses, trees, and poles were broken in two.

The rivers and lakes all did rise
And bridges went down in front of our eyes,
The houses were flooded and full of trash
And trees fell down with a mighty crash.

The streets were completely filled with debris,
We saw a man stranded up in a tree,
The Farmington River overflowed
And refugees to safety were rowed.

This disaster was a horrible thing
So much suffering it did bring,
We hope we never have another hurricane
That will bring us so much wind and rain.

Lona Squires, Grade 8, and Randall Bentley, Grade 8, Avon Heights School.

The Hurricane

First came the wind, then came the rain,
Beating upon each window pane.
Oh, such a sight! Oh, what a night!
Trees falling here, Rivers flooding there,
Throwing the people into a scare,
Lights were all out, Telephones too,
Nobody knew just what to do.

Josephine Silver, Grade 8, Avon Heights School

The Hurricane

We had a hurricane Wednesday. It was very windy. It rained very hard. The wind blew down the trees. The wind blew roofs off the houses. The rain made the river rise. Then we had a flood.

Group Story, Grades 1 & 2, Towpath

The Two Boats

My friends were forced out of their home. They had to move all of their furniture upstairs. They could not move the piano, the refrigerator and the electric stove. They were floating around in the house. I think they must have looked very funny.

Betty Jane Manion, Gr. 2, Towpath

The Rain Storm

We had a very bad storm. It blew down many trees. Some trees were uprooted. Many trees fell down in the street. Some trees fell down on the houses. The electric wires were broken. We had to use four candles to light the house up. It was fun to use the candles.

Patricia Ann Smith, Gr. 2, Towpath

The Hurricane

I saw a tree fall down. It was big. The leaves were turning color. It was pretty. I was sorry to see it fall. I cannot enjoy the pretty colors now.

Ellicott Howes, Gr. 2, Towpath

The Hurricane

The church steeple fell. The minister was very sorry when it fell. It had been there a long time.

Norma Sisson, Gr. 2, Towpath

The Hurricane I Saw

We had a very bad hurricane. The wind blew over trees. Some glass blew out of the windows. I did not like the hurricane. I was frightened.

Marcia Bourn, Gr. 2, Towpath

The Over-Flooded Cabins

The cabins were flooded. Two of the cabins floated away. Now you can only see the steps. The steps look very funny without the cabins.

Particia Ann Smith, Gr. 2, Towpath

The Hurricane at the Beach

The Saturday after the hurricane, I went to Kelsey Point Beach in Westbrook with my father. We went down to see my great grandmother who was living in a cottage there. Many shingles were off the roof and the front porch was blown off the cottage. We saw many cottages and houses blown away from where they used to stand. We saw many boats that had been blown into yards and roads.

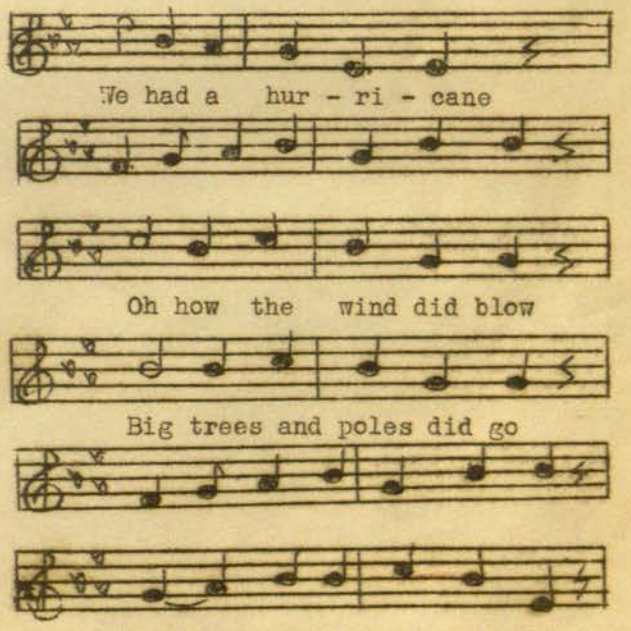
Fred Case, Gr. 4, Towpath

The Hurricane and Flood

I live at Avon Old Farms School. Many big trees fell around the school grounds. We had no telephone because trees fell on the wires. The water was higher in the meadows than it was two years ago. Many older boys helped to clear away the trees. The school buildings are made of stone so they were not damaged.

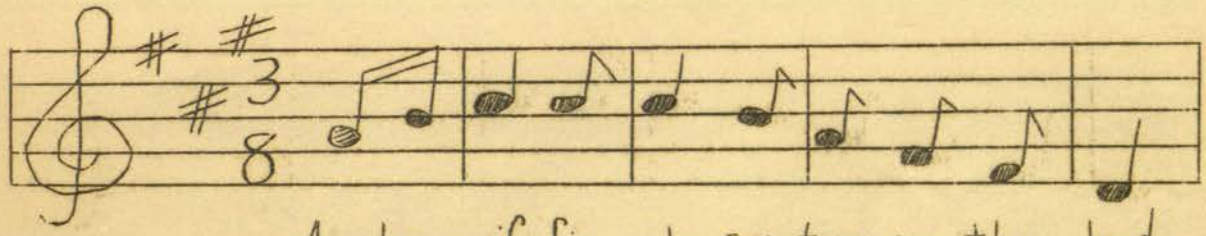
Ernestine Hunter, Gr. 4, Towpath

The Hurricane

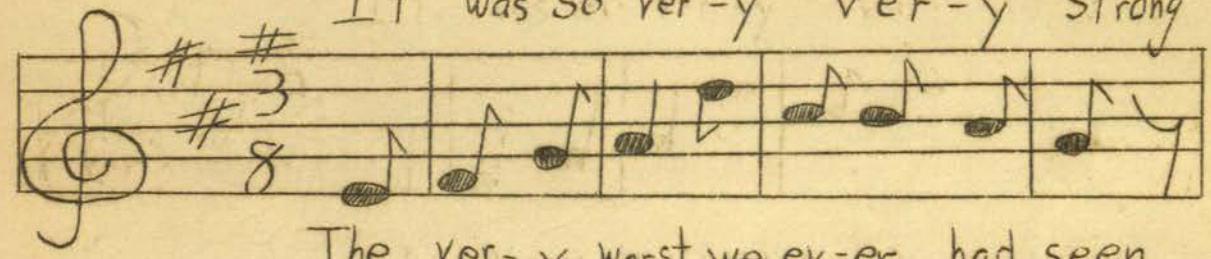


Original Song
Grades 2 and 3
Towpath School

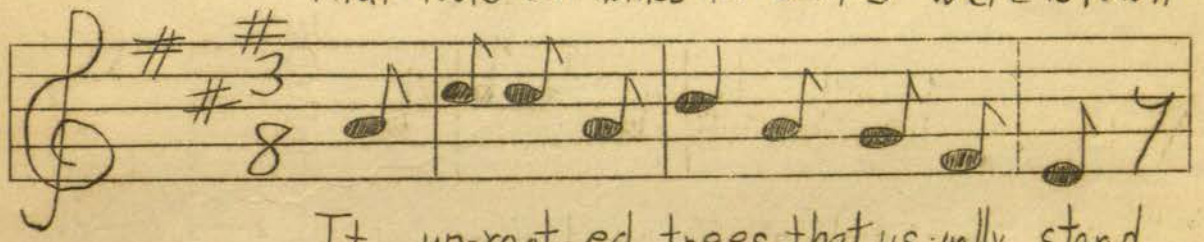
Hurricane Song



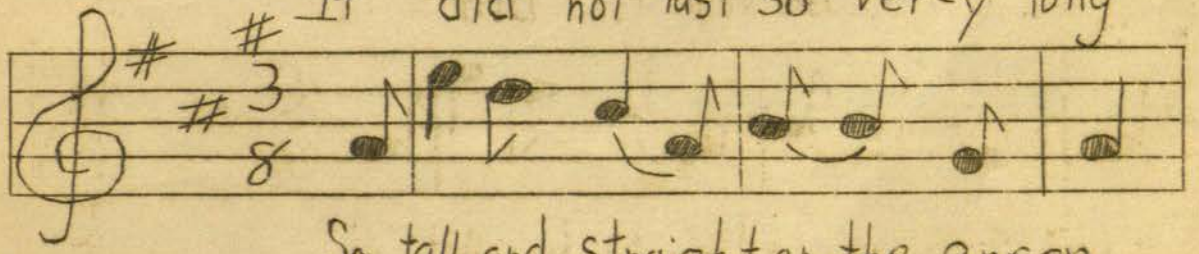
A ter-rif-fic gale swept o-ver the land
It was so ver-y ver-y strong



The ver-y worst we ev-er had seen
That roofs of homes to bits were blown



It up-root-ed trees that us-ually stand
It did not last so ver-y long



So tall and straight on the green.
But aft-er it great damage was known.

Grades V-VI
Towpath School

Believe It Or Not

Would you believe it? On Wednesday we had a hurricane. It was the first one that we have ever seen in this part of the country. Many of the telephone poles and trees were knocked down by the wind. The wires got tangled in the trees and so we couldn't have any electricity for two days. The town water is pumped by electricity and so we couldn't have any water either. People never thought that a severe hurricane could strike us.

Grace Prowe, Gr. 5, Towpath

Hurricane Damage

On our farm we have many chickens which are kept in shelters. The shelters are very light. The whirling winds of Wednesday's hurricane were so strong that they picked up the shelters, carried them two hundred feet, and crashed them on the ground. As you look at them now, they are just kindling wood and wire. My father lost over one hundred chickens that were outside. My father also had four thousand eggs hatching in our incubators. When the electricity went off, the eggs were spoiled. As a result of the hurricane we lost many of our things.

David Eddy, Gr. 5, Towpath

The Hurricane

Last Wednesday, September 21st, we had a terrible hurricane. The Farmington River was flooded so that you could not see under the bridge. My father took some pictures of the flood. Mr. Alsop's field in back of our house was flooded. You would think that there had never been any dry land there. The big oak tree in front of our house was swaying so that some of the branches touched the ground. My mother said that ever since she can remember there was never such a storm.

Marjorie Case, Gr. 5, Towpath

The Hurricane

The beaches felt the hurricane on Wednesday very severely. Many cottages were washed into the ocean by the great tidal wave. It was lucky that the hurricane did not strike in the summer. Many more people would have been hurt or drowned.

Tosca Sartori, Gr. 5, Towpath

The Flooded Cabins

Wednesday there was a flood at the Avon Diner. The water covered the cabins so that you could see only the tops. When the water went down, you could see there were two cabins missing. The two cabins are in the river now. One cabin was stopped by the trees, and the other cabin is sailing in the water. I am glad that I was not in one of the cabins when the storm came up.

Stephen Brighenty, Gr. 5, Towpath

The Weather Vane

The huge weather vane from the Avon Congregational Church spire was hurled to the ground in the hurricane. It has been on the spire for over one hundred years. It weighs over one hundred pounds. It will cost much money to have it fixed.

David Eddy, Gr. 5, Towpath

Our Apple Tree

A hard whistling wind blew our apple tree down during the hurricane. I saw it fall. When the wind blew from the other side, it blew the apple tree up again almost into place. We could not save it because it was decayed inside. We had to cut it down.

Joseph Gorelski, Gr. 5, Towpath

The Hurricane

Wednesday afternoon, I went over to Marvin's house to play with him. The wind was blowing hard, and I don't believe I ever saw it rain so hard before. Marvin and I went out-of-doors to hear the wind whistle. We were standing there when Bobby came running over and said that a tree was down. Marvin and I hurried over to Bobby's porch to see it. My mother came over because she thought the maple tree was going to fall on the house. The next day I helped my father chop the tree into pieces. We chopped and sawed all day. John Prokopec, Grade 6, Towpath School

The Hurricane

It happened on the twenty-first of September just as I reached home from school. The wind began to whistle around the corners of my house. Torrents of rain splashed against the panes of glass. The blinds banged against the sides of the house We wondered what was coming. We rushed to the window. Outside the trees were swaying and bending. Suddenly there was a loud noise. A tree in Marvin's yard crashed to the ground. Soon there was another loud crashing sound. I looked out of my bedroom window just in time to see a tree split in half. When the storm had subsided, I went out to see the tree. The storm had been a very exciting one.

Loretta Tarckini, Grade 6, Towpath School

The Hurricane

About twenty minutes after I reached home from school, the wind and rain became violent. The rain beat against the house. The trees bent low. Branches broke off. It was a hurricane. It raged for approximately two hours before it subsided. How silent the world was then. The sun was shining as though to mock us. My sister and I walked down the street. We saw several trees uprooted. Some were on houses. Telephone wires were down. What a terrific hurricane we had had!

Eleanor Kruse, Grade 6, Towpath School

The Hurricane

It happened on September 21, 1938. For days we had had nothing but rain and rain. No sooner had I reached home that night than the wind began to grow steadily stronger. The trees began to sway. Suddenly there was a terrific crash. A very large tree had hit our house. It made a deafening noise. After the storm, it seemed as if everything was upset. Trees were down everywhere. Electric lights and telephone wires were on the ground. Even the poles were standing at an angle.

Lillian Baraglia, Grade 7, Towpath School

The Hurricane

When the hurricane was at its worst a car stopped in front of our house. Two girls jumped out of it and ran up our driveway. My father was at the door ready to open it for them. They informed us that they were on their way to Hartford but that they didn't dare to go any further because of the tremendous wind. We allowed them to remain with us until the storm was over. After it had subsided the world seemed very silent. The sun came out. There appeared in the sky a rainbow of pretty colors. I saw two seagulls flying over our house.

Clara Rotondo, Grade 7, Towpath School

The Hurricane of 1938

School had been dismissed for the day at the usual time. I had been home but five minutes when a gust of wind swept over our house. From the window I could see trees swaying back and forth. Trees were uprooted. Limb after limb was crashing down. After the storm abated, we went out to see the damage. Wires were on the ground. I saw a seagull on a limb of a tree. We had no electric lights for five nights and five days. We had no water for one day. We had no school for two days.

John Zanolli, Grade 7, Towpath School

The Hurricane

School had been dismissed but a half hour when the wind began to blow steadily stronger. It slowly increased. Limbs were snapped from the trees. Two tobacco sheds slid onto their sides. A huge limb fell across the road and left but little room for automobiles to pass. It blew part of the steeple from the protestant church. The main street was impassable until people could cut their way through.

Virginia Rebillard, Grade 7, Towpath School

The Hurricane

During the hurricane my brother was working in a tobacco barn. Suddenly it began to collapse. He didn't have time to get out of it. One of the beams hit him on the back and knocked him down. Although he was hurt he managed to drag himself out of the wreckage. He tried to pull himself to a car but he couldn't. He had to sit in the rain until help came. Some of the fellows who worked there found him. They took him right to the hospital. There it was found that he had a dislocated hip. He declares he was very fortunate not to have been killed.

Douglas Brown, Grade 7, Towpath School

In the Darkness

The hurricane had left us no electricity
The older folks thought that a calamity
But my brothers and I thought it was sport
To light the old lamp and the three candles short
We had light!

Hurry, hurry, someone is coming
Can't you hear them laughing and humming
Run to the door and invite them in
Oh! Look at the queer little lantern
They had light!

Helen Goralski, Grade 7, Towpath School

The Wild Hurricane

Wind, flood, and fires caused deaths of thousands of people. The flood disaster began when Connecticut's dams started to give way. Disjointed highways were found frequently in every direction. Trees fell as their roots left the earth. Newly planted trees fared no better than ancient ones. Every new burst of the driving rain brought the closing of more roads. Nearly every highway in the state was impassable from fallen trees. Hartford's trees have always been its pride. When the wind had finished blowing through the city, many streets looked like fallen forests. The great trees fell and in falling carried with them trolleys, lights, and telephone wires. Railroads had their troubles, too. Certain section routes were closed. Hundreds of men were at work trying to clear the streets. Along the sidewalks, concrete blocks had been loosened by uptorn trees. It was not until Friday that the flood began to recede. Hundreds of people were left homeless and much beauty was taken away.

Catherine Calcagni, Grade 7, Towpath School

The Disastrous Hour

Wednesday, September 21, 1938, the day of the disastrous hurricane, I returned home from school in an unusual storm. After a half hour or so, I was called outside by my father. Putting on a raincoat, hat, rubbers, and taking an umbrella as it was raining hard, I joined my father. He showed me a tree which had fallen on a neighbor's house while someone else told me to look at the weathervane on the church. I looked first at the fallen tree and then I ran to look at the weathervane, which looked as if it were about to fall off, and later it did. Farther up Main Street stately old trees swayed with the wind, while leaves flew around like snowflakes on a winter's day. The wind howled and roared. Some of these old trees were felled, roots and all by the mighty force of the wind. Then almost as suddenly as it began, this hurricane ceased. The sun came out in all its splendor and soon people ventured out sightseeing. As it was past supper time, I had my supper and then went out again. I walked up Main Street in between two trees, around another, and over still another. Then turning around, I went down to see the river, where rapidly moving waters swept

The Disastrous Hour (continued)

steadily on like a huge wave swallowing the land. Later, after returning home, I sat up with only candlelight to guide me, and thought over how powerful God was, turning out the fury of wind and rain in one hour and in the next--sunshine.

Dolores Kulpik, Grade 8, Towpath School

One Hour of Hurricane

This dreadful hurricane started about the time we got out of school. A few minutes after I got home, the wind began to blow harder than ever. About four o'clock my father came up and told us that one of the silos had blown over and crashed into Mr. Holloway's house. A few minutes later I looked out of the window and noticed that the chimney had blown off of one of the houses. Trees were being blown over and leaves were flying about like snowflakes. This hurricane ceased about as suddenly as it began, and the sun came out and shone as if it were laughing at us.

Elizabeth Smith, Grade 8, Towpath School

The Disastrous Hour

After arriving home from school on Wednesday, which was a stormy day, the wind began to howl through the trees. During the disastrous hour, many astonishing things happened which I had never seen before. Stately old trees, both large and small, crashed roughly to the ground like thunder. The water rose like the smoke of a fire and in a short time was running over its banks then swiftly flowing away like the foam of the sea. Not the singing of a bird could be heard as they sheltered away from the rain which fell like a fountain from the sky. Above was a sheet of fog like a stormy day on the ocean. Never have I seen a wind so strong to leave things so unkempt as this hurricane.

Annie Desimoni, Grade 8, Towpath School

The Dreadful Storm

September 21, 1938 at 3:30 P.M. my mother had sent someone down after me because it was raining very hard. I just got home when the storm began. At 4:00 P.M. the rain came down in torrents. Rain came in the screens and up under the windows and down through the ceiling. Trees came up and branches went down. Some heifers got out of the lot and my sister and I put them in. At 5:00 P.M. the hurricane stopped. Branches were in the road and cars stopped. My brother and some men got the limbs out of the road and the cars went along. Then my brother, two August boys, my sister, and I went to see the sights. In Hartford trees were down and sidewalks were broken. When we came home, the newest silo was down. The top of the silo went off and hit my uncle's house. One of the chimneys went down. All of the corn was under water and three thousand dollars worth of damage was done.

Gladys Holloway, Grade 7, Towpath School

One Hour of Hurricane

The hurricane began about 3:30 on September 21, 1938 and lasted until about 5:00 o'clock in the afternoon. Lothar and I stayed after school to start work on the school newspaper. Mr. Smith was helping us plan out the pages when the electricity went off. Then Lothar's father came after him but Mr. Smith told him that he would bring him up after we had finished. We looked at the church steeple and it had canted. The next time we looked at it the weathervane was gone. We got into the car and went up by Sperry Park but we could not get through because there were fallen trees all around us. We went down to the center and saw all the trees down on Main Street. Then we went down to my home and they left me there.

David Stuart, Grade 8, Towpath School

The Hurricane

The hurricane that occurred Wednesday night was like a bloodthirsty giant going along destroying, ruining, and killing any object or person in its path of death and destruction.

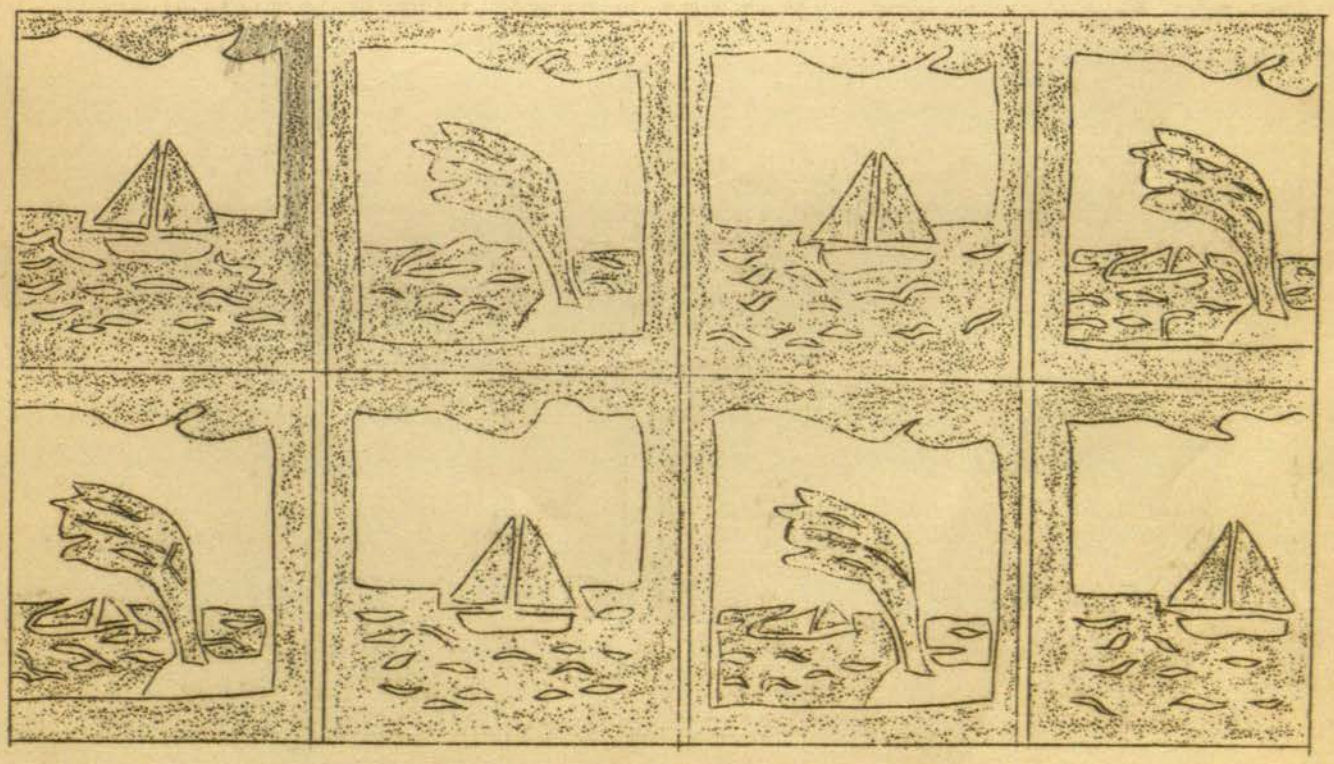
One hour of hurricane on this dreadful Wednesday night;
One hour of hurricane that knocked down trees for spite;
One hour of hurricane that blew with all its might;
One hour of hurricane that occurred on a Wednesday night.

Fred Brunoli, Grade 8, Towpath School

An Unexpected Storm

An unexpected storm popped up from the eastern coast and headed inland toward Connecticut. This storm occurred from four o'clock to five o'clock Wednesday afternoon, September 21, 1938. It was a tropical hurricane. It was the first one to strike Connecticut and other northern states in recent years. This storm was believed to have blown out to sea. That is why it was unexpected. This storm did damage that caused people millions of dollars loss. It spoiled many acres of rich land that belonged to farmers. Most of the trees that were in the storm's path fell over, roots and all. When these trees fell over, many of them fell across roads blocking traffic. They also fell over electric wires and telephone and telegraph wires. The river overflowed its banks. The weathervane on the Avon Congregational Church, weighing four hundred pounds, fell off the steeple.

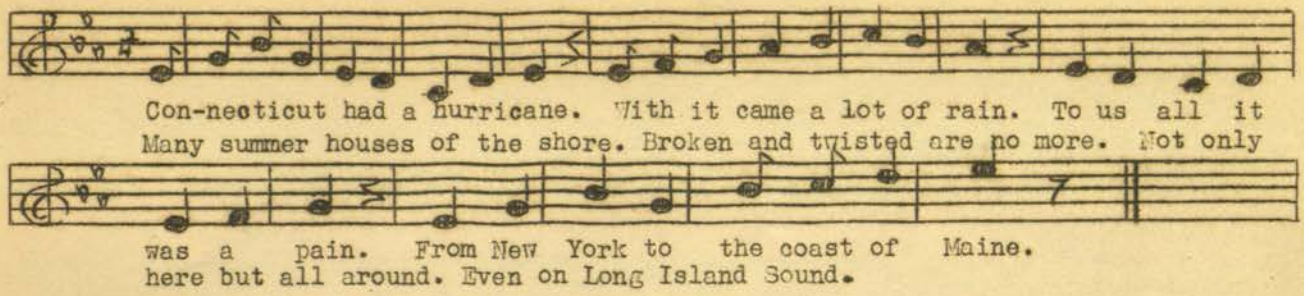
Marvin Turner, Grade 7, Towpath School



All-over design by David Stuart, Grade 8
Towpath School

Connecticut's Hurricane

(An original song by the pupils of the Lovely Street School, Avon)



A Small Hurricane

A big poplar tree came down by the side of my grandmother's house. It fell down in the street and the cars could not go by. One car tried to get by the tree by going over into the field but it got stuck in the mud.

Florence Keeney, Gr. 5, Lovely Street

The Hurricane

When I got home from school, the wind was blowing. There is a big pine tree next to our house. We thought it would blow the pine tree down on the living room roof, but it did not. That night we had to have candles to eat our supper and candles to read and to go to bed by.

Marjorie Warner, Gr. 5, Lovely Street

The Flood

I was in Hartford Saturday. I saw boats paddling around in the water where cars used to go. Pianos were floating around. Bridges were washed away. When we got home, there were no lights so we had to go to bed by candle light.

Albert Lomnicky, Gr. 5, Lovely Street

The Storm that Was Not Wanted

Crack! Crack! Crack!
Trees and houses were blown down flat.
It rained so much it made a flood,
Floors and walls were covered with mud.
Inoculation and clean up week must begin
Before the people in those houses can
live again.
All electric power went dead
People used candles to walk up to bed.
They bumped into doors and into each other
Many children called for their father and
mother.

Wm. Grunewald, Gr. 8, Lovely Street

Connecticut's Hurricane

Connecticut had a hurricane
With it came a lot of rain,
Barns and houses were blown down
They lay broken on the ground.
Summer houses at the shore
Broken and twisted are no more,
Hurricane winds caused damage greatly
To the trees so tall and stately.

Warner Buttles, Gr. 8, Lovely Street

The Hurricane

Oh! What hurricanes can do!
Change the streets and houses, too,
Make the streets little canals
Hartford was Venice in many places
And houses floated off their bases.

Marjorie Warner, Gr. 5, Lovely Street

The Hurricane

Rattle! Rattle! Rattle! tin roofs are
blowing
Down came the electric light poles
Down came the kerosene lamps from the
attics
Most of the people were frantic.

The Red Cross are asking for clothes
and shoes
The hurricane surely made news.
Hartford men work night and day
To make the water flow the right way.

Irene Distin, Gr. 6, Lovely Street

The Hurricane

Whoo! Whoo! Whoo! the wind was blowing
Crack! Crack! Crack! the trees were
falling on houses and barns.
The wind was taking away roofs, doors,
and windows
Grand pianos were floating around in
water.
Whole cities blown away,
Many people lost and gone forever
Over the radio we could hear
Messages sent by those who fear
For their relatives who were not near.

Bruna Bonini, Gr. 6, Lovely Street

Near the School

A small hurricane came to West Avon on Wednesday. Trees were uprooted, telephone poles were down. One tree landed on top of a house. No one was hurt. Some trees were laying across the road. Our driveway was blocked on account of a limb. At the beginning of the storm, the wind was coming from the east. Then at the end of the storm before we know what was happening, the wind changed to the west. A lot of limbs were on our lawn. When the wind was in the east, a telephone pole in front of the school was swaying towards the west. When the wind changed to the west, the telephone pole straightened up.

Audrey Thompson, Grade 4, Pine Grove School

Outside Districts - Avon Road Near Avon Mountain

Winds blew! The rain poured! The river rose four inches per hour and the Avon Diner was threatened! This is the story of the flood of the Farmington River in Avon in the year 1938. The Avon Diner is right near the river, and the water came up to the doorstep. Behind the Avon Diner there were eight cabins. One floated away and one turned around and landed against a tree. Every part of the Avon Diner was threatened. Around the Avon Diner squash and tomatoes floated. About a quarter of a mile down the road from the Avon Diner, the water was over the road.

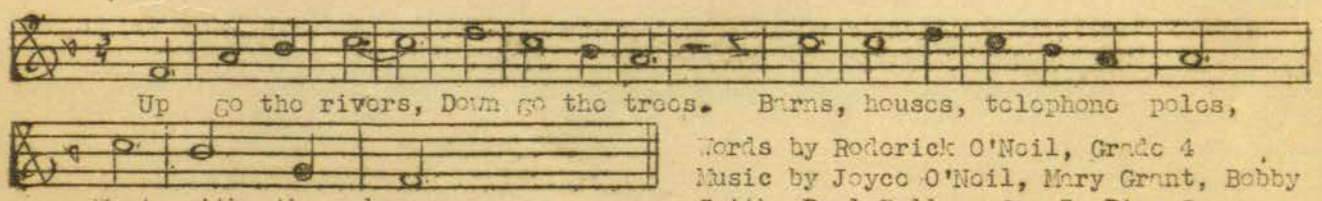
Jeannette Peterson, Grade 6, Pine Grove School

Hurricane Hits West Avon

About three o'clock on Wednesday, a small hurricane hit West Avon. First came the rain. It came down in torrents. Gusts of rain swept up the road and across the fields and woods. Suddenly the wind came up. Between the wind and the rain, you couldn't see very far ahead. The rain was so heavy it looked like fog. The electricity was shut off to prevent fires which might be caused by the storm. The storm was very severe and much damage was done. Trees were uprooted, telephone poles were broken in two, and electric wires were strewn all over the road. The traffic was blocked because big limbs and trees were laying across the road. Many people were fooled because the electricity was shut off. We pulled switches and no lights came on. Electric toasters wouldn't toast our bread. We had to go hunting for candles, old oil lamps, and lanterns. Cupboards, attics, and cellars were searched for lamps, lanterns, and candles. How queer it looked along the road with no street lights.

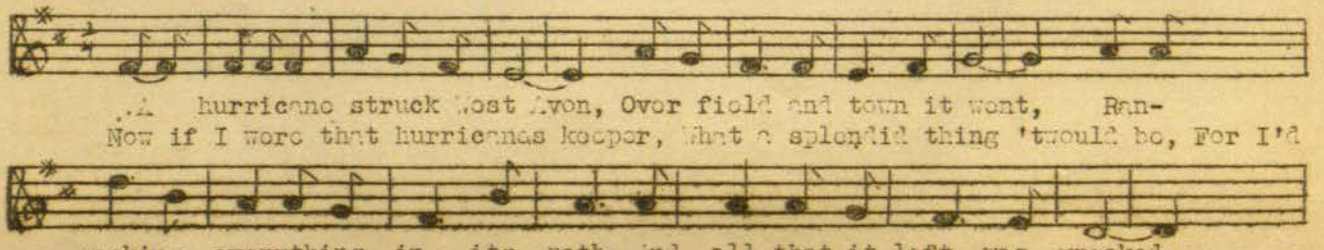
Class Story, Pine Grove School

The Storm

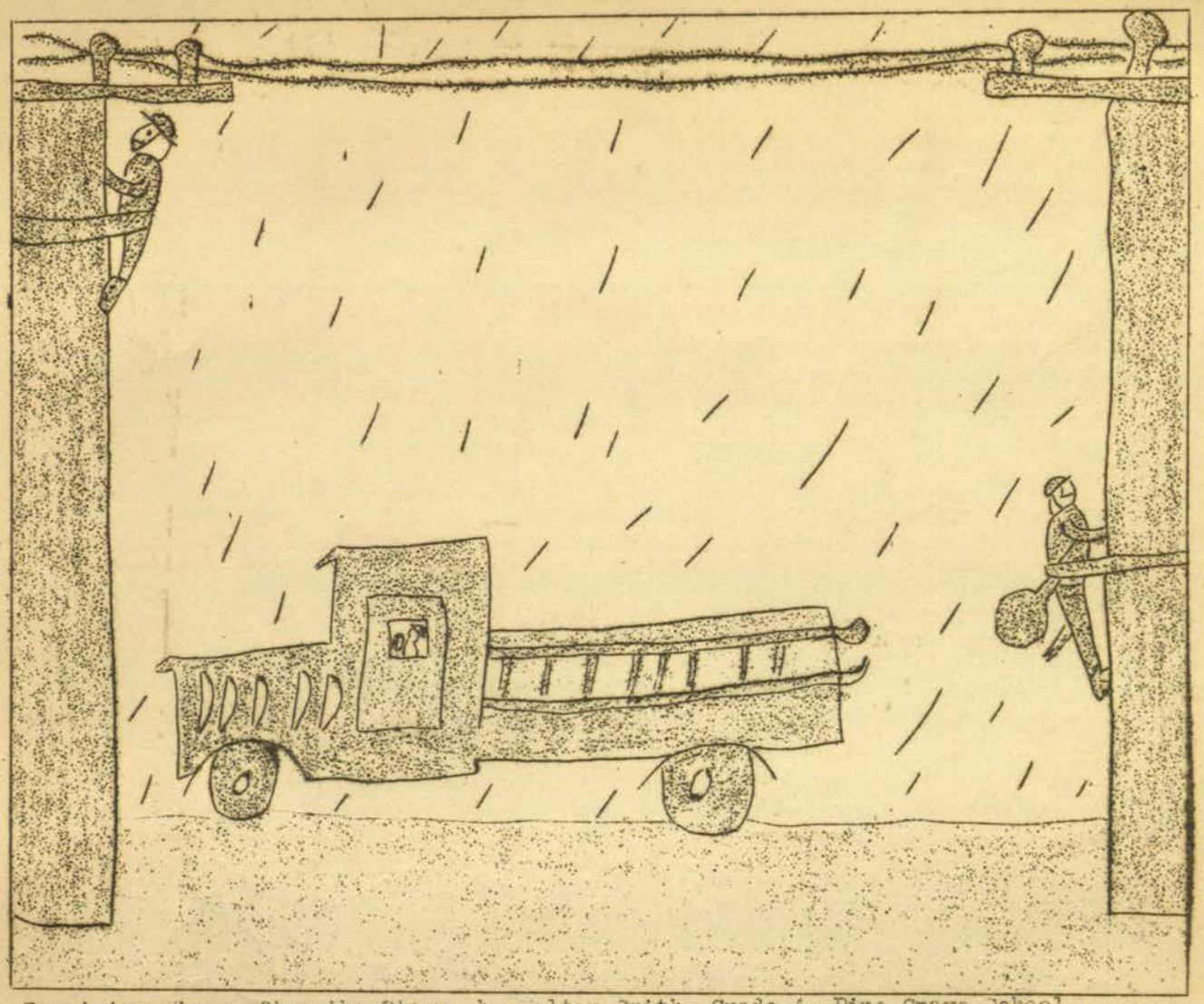


Words by Roderick O'Neil, Grade 4
Music by Joyce O'Neil, Mary Grant, Bobby Smith, Paul Belles, Gr. 3, Pine Grove.

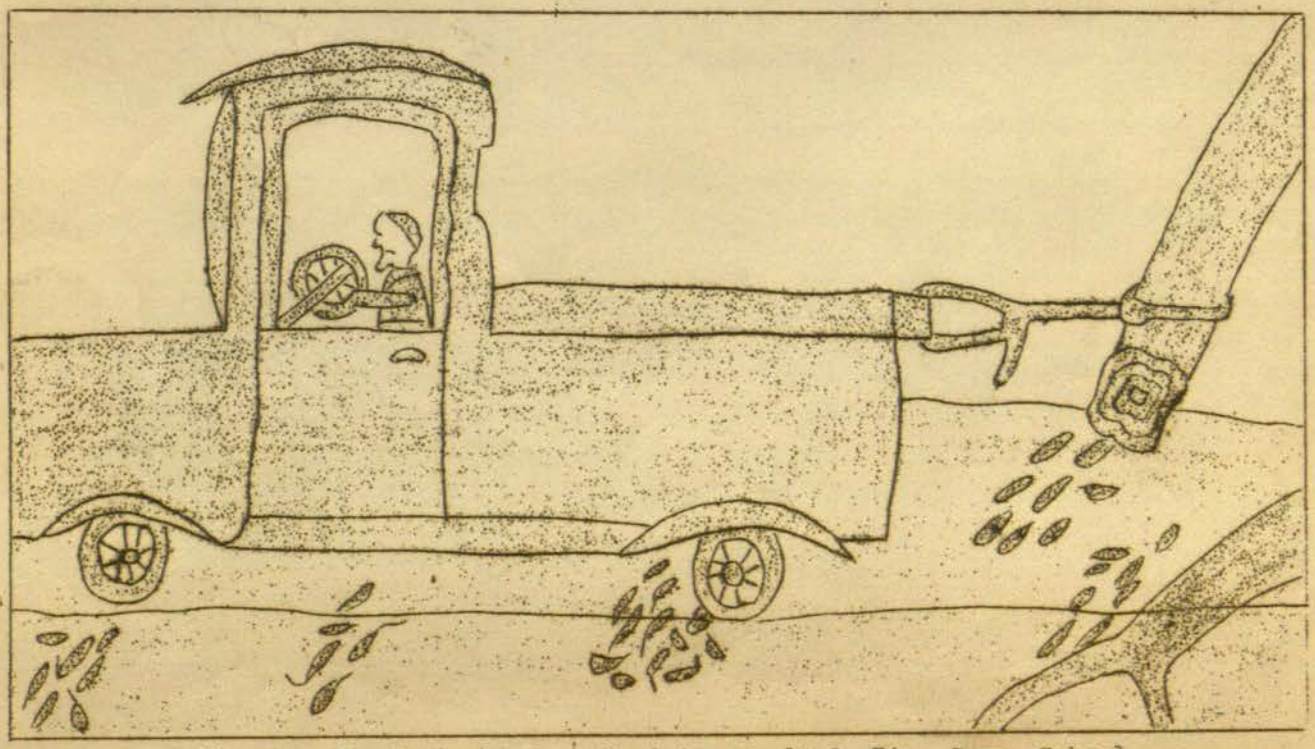
A Hurricane and Its Keeper



Music by Grades 6 and 7. Words by Arthur Neilson Grade 6, Pine Grove School.



Repairing Wires After the Storm, by Walter Smith, Grade 4, Pine Grove School.



Clearing the Road, by Gene Goodwin, Grade 6, Pine Grove School.

TOWN OF BURLINGTON

A Sunday Ride

Sunday we went for a ride. We went to many towns around New Hartford. The most interesting thing we saw was how the flood took away a bridge in Pleasant Valley. It took a big iron bridge about a half mile from where it had stood.

John Dembishack, Grade 2, Riverside School

The Flood of 1938

On Wednesday evening, September 21, 1938 we had a big flood. The people by the river on Arch Street in Collinsville had to move out of their homes. Many of the people had to be taken out of their homes by boat. The people went to their friends' homes to stay for the night, but no one slept. They were all walking around the streets. It was about half past twelve when the water started to drop.

Walter Dembishack, Grade 3, Riverside School

The Flood and Hurricane of 1938

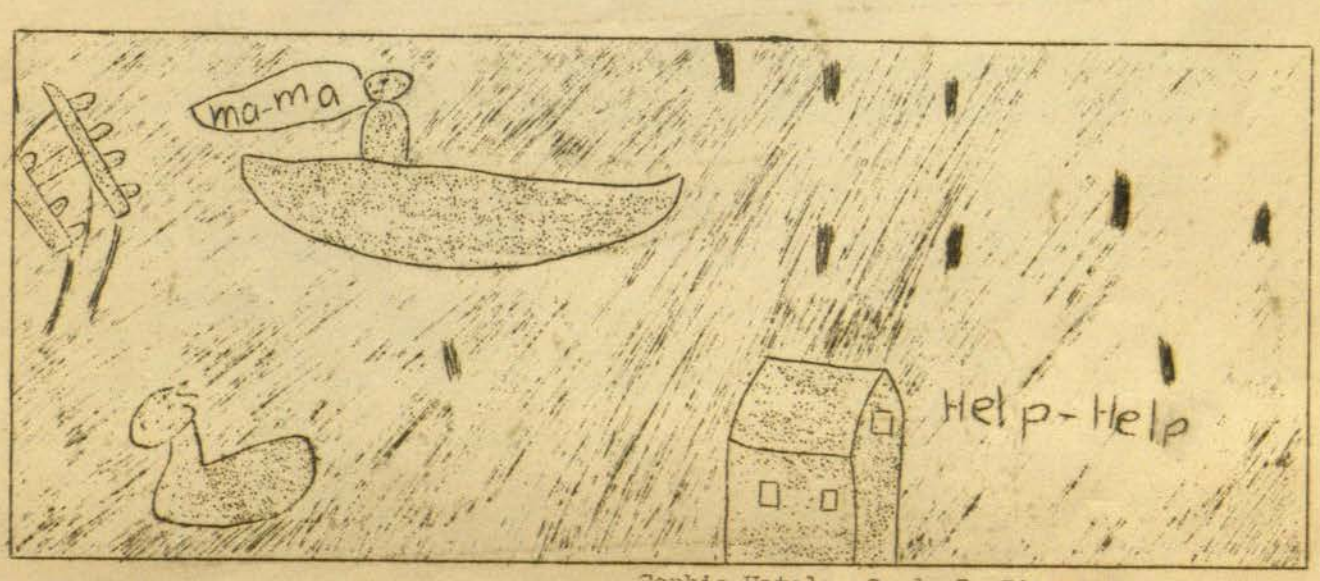
On the afternoon of September 21, 1938, we had a very bad storm. The rain came down in torrents. The wind began to blow very hard. The rivers got higher and higher. The water went over the banks. It went into some people's houses and stores. It went over some roads. It knocked down some buildings. It washed away some of the railroad tracks. The trains could not run for several days. Bridges were washed away. Trees fell across the tracks and roads. Cars could not get by. Trees fell on houses and cars. Signs were blown down. Telephone poles were blown down. People didn't have any electric lights. They had to use candles or lamps. They couldn't use their radios. Electric ice boxes wouldn't run. Telephones were out of order. The storm did a lot of damage. This bad storm was a hurricane.

Grades 1, 2, and 3, Riverside School

A Bad Storm

We had a bad wind storm. It was very, very windy. I was afraid. My mother was afraid. My father was afraid. My sister was afraid. My brother was afraid, too. The wind blew a lot of trees down. The river got high.

Marion Mikolajcik, Grade 3, Riverside School



Sophie Hatala, Grade 3, Riverside School

Flood Excitement

During the flood, the water came very fast into my sister's yard on Arch Street. My father and my brothers had to work quickly to get two cars out of the yard. My sister had all her clothes packed ready to move. She had many of her other things at our house. Everyone was glad when the water began to go down around midnight.

Jennie Kucia, Grade 5, Riverside School

Flood Damages

The flood of 1938 did much damage to my cousins' house in Willimantic. The water reached the second floor. It rose so fast they didn't have time to save any of their furniture. When we visited them almost two weeks later, they were still living in a hotel. Their furniture was piled in the front yard. It was so badly damaged that it was to be burned at a dump. No one was allowed to enter the house. It will take money and time to replace the furniture and repair the house.

Cecile Roy, Grade 6, Riverside School

Myrtle Beach After the Hurricane

Four days after the hurricane, I visited Myrtle Beach in Milford. I could hardly believe my eyes! Some houses were now piles of kindling wood. Others, badly damaged, had been torn away many feet from their foundations. Still others were filled with mud and water. The roads and sidewalks were thick with mud. Everything was in ruins where once there had been a happy playground for people and children.

Margery Weirauch, Grade 6, Riverside School

The Farmington River Stages a Flood

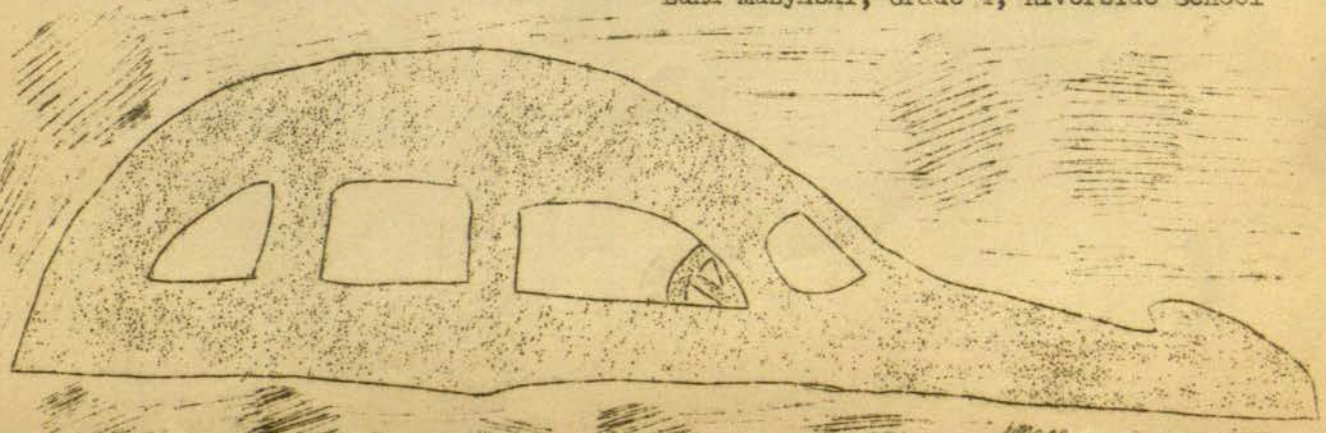
How fast the Farmington River rose during the evening of the flood and hurricane! It broke the flash boards at the two dams in Collinsville. It rushed several feet over the dams. It smashed Mrs. Szczepanski's five-car garage. It rushed into the grocery store on Arch Street. It tore big holes in the road under the arch. It knocked down telephone poles and fence posts. It twisted the wires. It damaged people's yards and houses. Never before had the Farmington River done so much damage!

Martha Legowski, Grade 5, Riverside School

A Narrow Escape

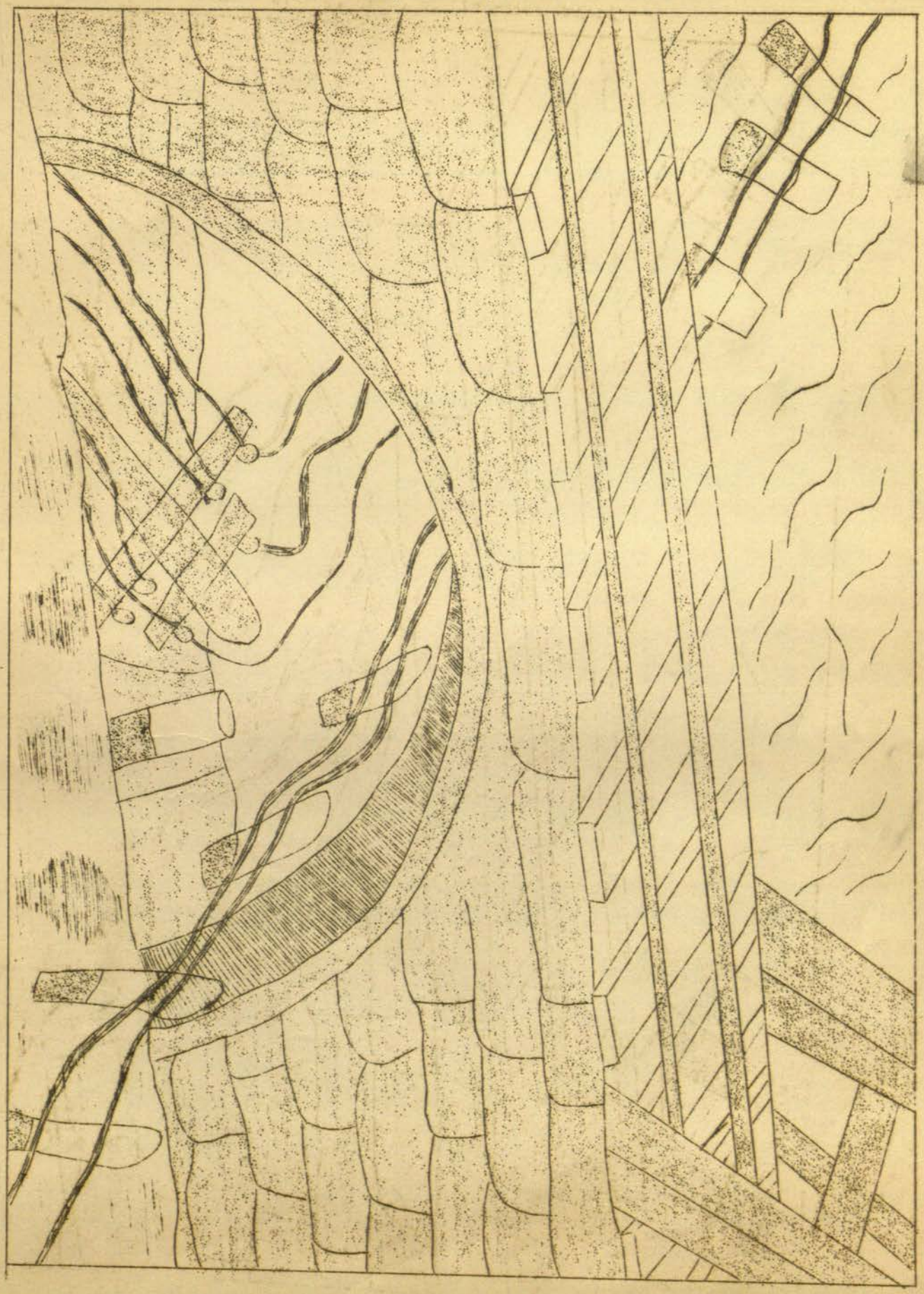
My mother was walking to my grandmothers about six o'clock on the night of the flood and hurricane. The wind was blowing hard. She heard a slow, cracking sound. She ran as fast as she could. In a second she heard a loud crash. She turned around and saw a large tree lying across the road where she had passed a few seconds ago. That was a narrow escape!

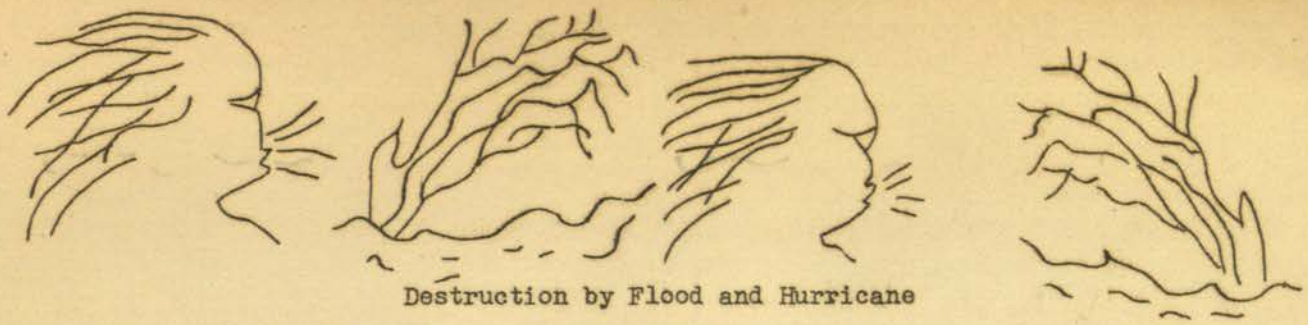
Edna Muzynski, Grade 4, Riverside School



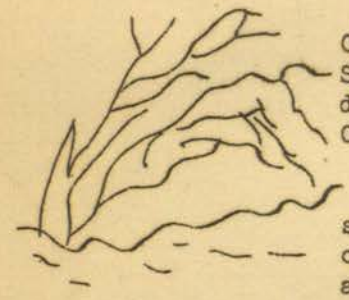
A Common Sight During the Flood
Martha Legowski, Grade 5
Riverside School

Under the Arch in Burlington
Joseph Dlubac, Grade 5, Riverside School





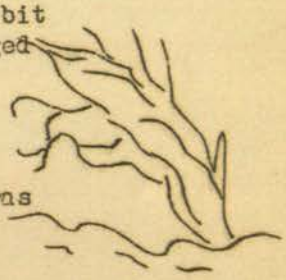
Destruction by Flood and Hurricane



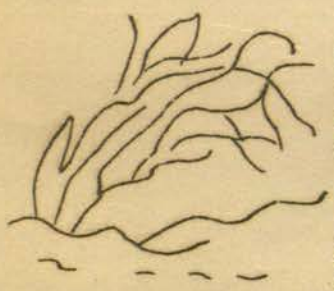
A hurricane originating in the Atlantic Ocean, hit the northeastern part of the United States. This fast moving wind was born in the doldrums. The doldrums are in the Atlantic Ocean east of the West Indies.

The heat from the equator rose and started the hurricane. Pressure from the outside egged it on. It grew in size to about three-hundred miles in diameter.

The people of Florida, accustomed to hurricanes, prepared for the worst when word reached them that a hurricane was due. However the trade winds from the Gulf Stream were a bit stronger than usual this time and they changed the course of the hurricane.

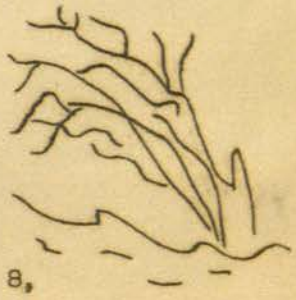


Florida sighed thankfully, but the weather bureau man kept vigil for he was worried. Slowly it crept toward Cape Hatteras and on Wednesday, September 21, it was reported off the Cape.



It crept up toward New England and in the late afternoon it struck inland. Blowing in a gale that eventually reached eighty-eight miles an hour, it centered its fury on Connecticut and Rhode Island.

Great damage was done. Buildings, especially those near the shore; trees heavily topped with leafy branches, and loose materials of all sorts went with the wind. Many lives were lost, and many people were injured. The damage was estimated to be very great.



Adam Kucia, Grade 7
Riverside School

Border design drawn by Ann Zastko, Grade 8, Riverside School.

The Hurricane

Once there was a little wind
That lived away down south,
One day he got the "doldrums"
And he puckered up his mouth.

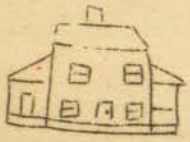
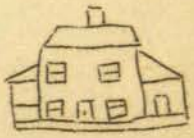
He lived where it was very hot,
He didn't want to stay,
So he packed his little suitcase
And planned to go away.

His friend, young Lowly Pressure,
Wanted to see him go,
And as things were very pressing,
He dared not be too slow.

So he started out to meet him,
But he found him on the way;
They started in to wrestle,
And rough games they did play.

Young Pressure said he'd go along
To keep him company;
They jumped about and frolicked,
And planned mischief joyfully.

In Florida, along the coast,
The folks were well prepared;
They boarded windows, locked the doors,
And coldly toward them glared.

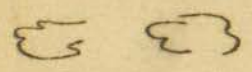
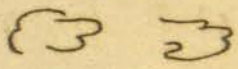



They didn't even visit
They'd find no welcome there,
So back they turned and went along,
They didn't seem to care.

They whirled out o'er the ocean,
And faster they did go,
Instead of getting smaller
Much bigger they did grow.

They raced back toward the inland,
And northward they did fly,
They gained speed every minute
As they rushed through the sky.

New England had no warning,
They struck an awful blow;
With rain and wind up in the sky,
And flood and ruin below.

Then Wind and Lowly Pressure
Saw the damage they had done,
They felt so very sorry
For what proved such tragic fun.

They were afraid to go back home,
For they had run away;
They couldn't linger where they were,
They had no place to stay.

They saw the damage they had done
To houses, trees and clay
Then sorrow came to them indeed
And they slowly died away.

The Storm in Whigville

About three o'clock yesterday, the fringe of a hurricane hit Whigville. Most of the children had rides home. Trees were blown across Burlington road. The cars could not go over it. Miss Tolpin could not get to Bristol for her dinner. She had to eat at Mrs. Flynn's. Many of our parents came home by going around through Edgewood. There was no electricity. We had to get out our candles and lamps. The bridge by Johnson's had to be guarded. It did not break. Shingles blew off many roofs. Windows were broken, too. Many things happened, but we did not have as much damage as many other places.

Grades 1, 2, and 3, Whigville School

A Narrow Escape

My cousins and I went for apples during
the storm.
The apple tree fell down.
That was a surprise.
We were glad it did not fall on us.

Evelyn Douyard, Gr. 3, Whigville School

Our Apple Trees

Three of our apple trees blew down in
the hurricane.
My father saw them fall.
He was sorry to lose good fruit trees.

Karl Rindfleisch, Gr. 3, Whigville School

The Railroad Tracks

We went in our car to see the damage the storm did. We saw railroad tracks. The water had washed the dirt out from under them. I don't think the train ran there for a few days.

Eric Johnson, Gr. 3, Whigville School

A Hurricane

We had a hurricane in Whigville. The water was very high and very swift. Many trees fell down. Johnson's bridge was overflowed. The wind blew all night. The next day I saw the damage.

Lorraine Kirschner, Gr. 4, Whigville School

Water Over the Bridge

On Wednesday, September 21, 1938, I came out to see how high the water was at the bridge. The water was almost up to the top. About six o'clock the water started to rise. I put my boots on and went up to the bridge. Mr. Paulik was there. He said, "Boots, where are you going with her?" The water now was coming over the bridge. The water was swift. Anyone would have been swept off the bridge if she were not hanging on to something. The road near the bridge had two big holes where the strong current washed it out. That night the bridge was closed. The next day the high school bus could not go over the bridge. The high school pupils had to walk to the bus.

Mona Johnson, Gr. 7, Whigville School

The Hurricane

The wind blew the rain
On to the window pane.

It made it rattle
Just like a battle.

It swayed the big trees
It tossed the blue seas.

It took some houses away
But not here I'm glad to say.

Florence Matthews, Gr. 5
Whigville School

The Hurricane

The hurricane blew on the twenty-first of September
I think it is something we all shall remember.

It was very bad on Wednesday night
And the day after, what a sight.

Trees had fallen here and there
Brooks were rushing everywhere.

The wind was howling all that night
We had to read by candle light.

Raymond Williams, Gr. 6
Whigville School

Hurricane Hits Whigville

The people of Whigville witnessed the worst wind and rain storm on record. The rain, starting Thursday, September 15th, continued through the weekend. On Wednesday of the next week, the storm reached hurricane speed.

A strong northeast wind and a driving rain brought much damage to Whigville. Many branches fell from the trees. Several large trees blew down--one huge maple near Kirschner's and a large oak near Porter's, the latter closing Burlington Avenue to traffic.

Roads were washed out. The bridges were threatened. There were six inches of water flowing over the bridge near Johnson's, causing it to be closed for the night.

Light service was completely nad and telephone service was partly disrupted. Candles, flashlights, lanterns, and lamps were in use.

Corn was flattened to the ground. Tomatoes were washed from the vines. Potatoes were rotted by the long rain.

While the storm was at its height, the gale whistled, howled, and roared. The waters of the brooks thundered over the rocks sending white spray high into the air. Rocks were heard tumbling down the brooks.

Although the hurricane was a thrilling experience for some of the people of Whigville, we all realize that we had little damage compared to that in many other places.

Class Report
Grades 4-8
Whigville School

The following material from the Fourth School, Burlington was taken from their record book on the Flood and Hurricane of 1938.

Why We Need a Radio in Time of Disaster

We need a radio in time of disaster because it helps us get in touch with relatives that are missing. If you get in touch with the radio station, they will broadcast the notice you wish. They let us know when there is danger in different parts of the world. Radio helps a lot when there are floods because it tells us which roads are undermined or flooded so we won't go away on trips and it tells us when the danger of floods or any disaster is near. It has saved many lives in this way.

Jean Moses, Grade 8

Flood Disaster Damages Unionville Bridge

On the twenty first of September,
I'm sure you will always remember,
There came the hurricane of thirty-eight
Which damaged every New England state.

The water took away the Unionville bridge
And many people climbed up on a ridge,
They were all afraid of the water so deep
And many of the people could not sleep.

Many of the people were drowned,
As the waters whirled all around,
I'm sure everyone will remember that sad day,
When the water and wind began to play.

Matthew Jendrejcak, Grade 7

The Flood at Our House

Tuesday, September 21, 1938 I got up and saw it was raining, but I went to school. We got out at noon because the radio reported we were going to have a hurricane. About an hour later, the hurricane started. First one of our apple trees fell down. After a while two big elms fell on the house. There was about two feet of water in our cellar. Later on another big elm fell down in the road breaking the telephone wires and our lights went out. After the hurricane was over, my brother went out and cut some of the branches off so Mr. Grant could get by. After he was through, Mr. Grant gave him a dollar. This flood did more damage than that of 1936.

Matthew Jendrejcak, Grade 7

The Flood at Our House

September 21, 1938 the flood came. On the day of September 20th, the river started to rise and after an hour the water came over the land and we had to move our pig. At four o'clock my father came home and made a crate for the pig. We went into the house. During the hurricane the water company came and said they were going to open the reservoir. The water was going fast and started to rise and we had to move out. My brother came and we went up to a neighbors house. We stayed there all night. When we went home the next morning, all the buildings were off their foundations except the house and the garage. There was a lot of mud and sand in the yard and in the house.

Robert Scheidel, Grade 6

The Flood at Our House

On September 21, 1938 when I woke up I found that the river was rising, but I went to school just the same. When I came home in the afternoon, the river was very high and there was a hurricane headed this way. The flood did very much damage in and around people's yards. The flood also did much damage to the railroad tracks. When the train came down from Collinsville headed for New Haven, it had to stop and go back to Collinsville because of washouts. The flood washed away many buildings and brought a lot of mud.

Richard Grabinsky, Grade 7

The Storm

There was a terrible storm on Wednesday, September 21, 1938. We were in school when it began. We had to walk home in the rain. When we reached home, we were soaked. The strong wind did much damage. It blew over a big tree tearing it out by the roots. Five of our apple trees were blown down. All of our apples and pears fell from the trees. This was the worse storm I have ever seen.

John Kaminsky, Gr. 5, Holcomb School

A Narrow Escape

The hurricane was bad. My father was coming home from work. A big cherry tree almost fell on his car.

Constance Lyon, Gr. 2, Holcomb School

A Bad Hurricane

We had a terrible hurricane and rain. It washed down stone walls. The brooks were high. It blew trees over. Barn roofs flew off. Roofs of houses flew away. It was very exciting.

Barbara Kost, Gr. 3, Holcomb School

All Wet!

Michael, John, and I had to walk in the rain. How it poured! How the wind blew! There was a big puddle across the road. We took our shoes off and waded through the water. We were all wet when we got home.

Helen Kaminsky, Gr. 2, Holcomb School

A Strong Barn

How the wind did blow one rainy day!
It almost blew the barn away.
We watched to see if it would fall.
But it's still there so big and tall.

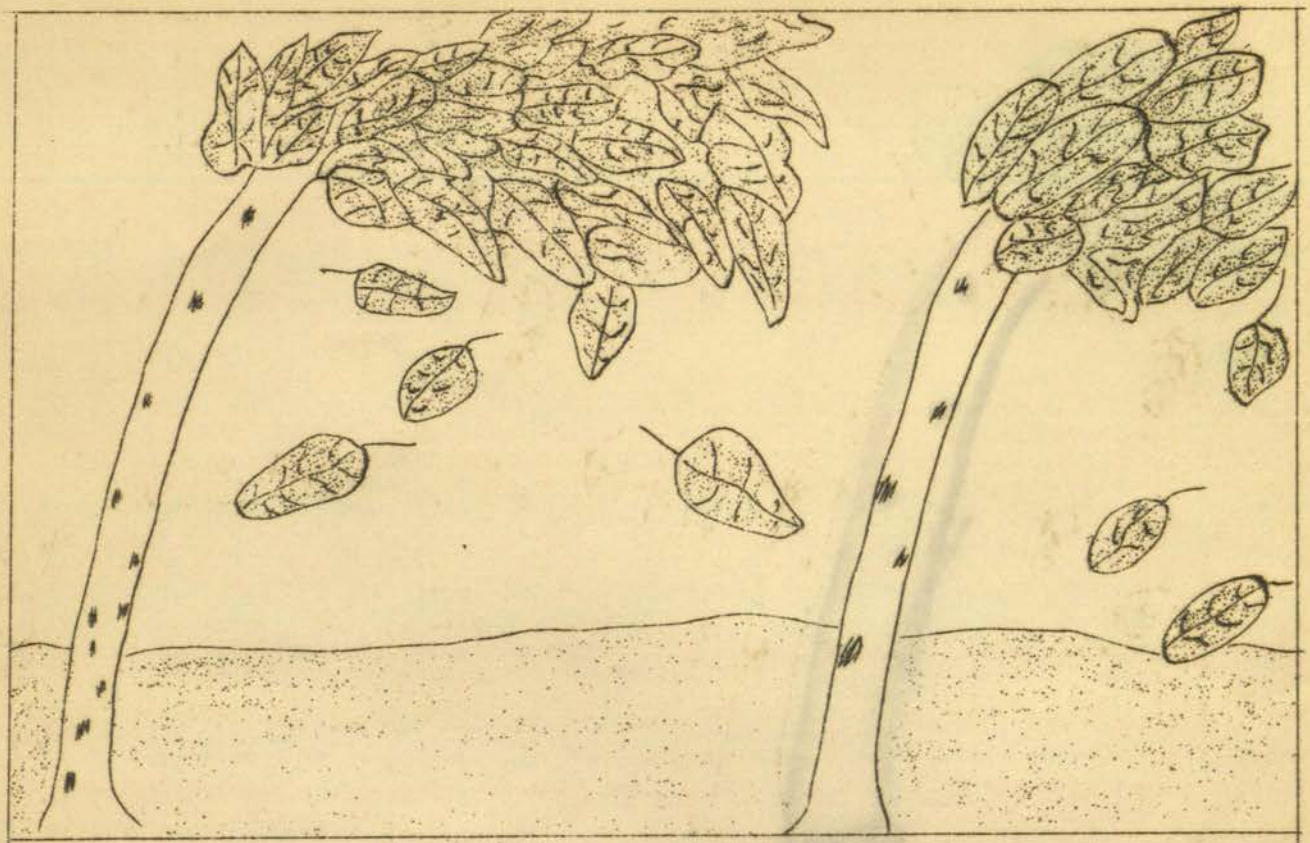
Barbara Kost, Gr. 3, Holcomb School

A Powerful Wind

At three o'clock in the afternoon
The wind began to blow
It had a loud and scary tune
Thumpity-thump our hearts did go.

Stronger and stronger the wind did blow
Ripping branches from the trees
Blowing the branches to and fro
Twisting them, tearing them in the breeze.

Dorothy Lyon, Gr. 7, Holcomb School

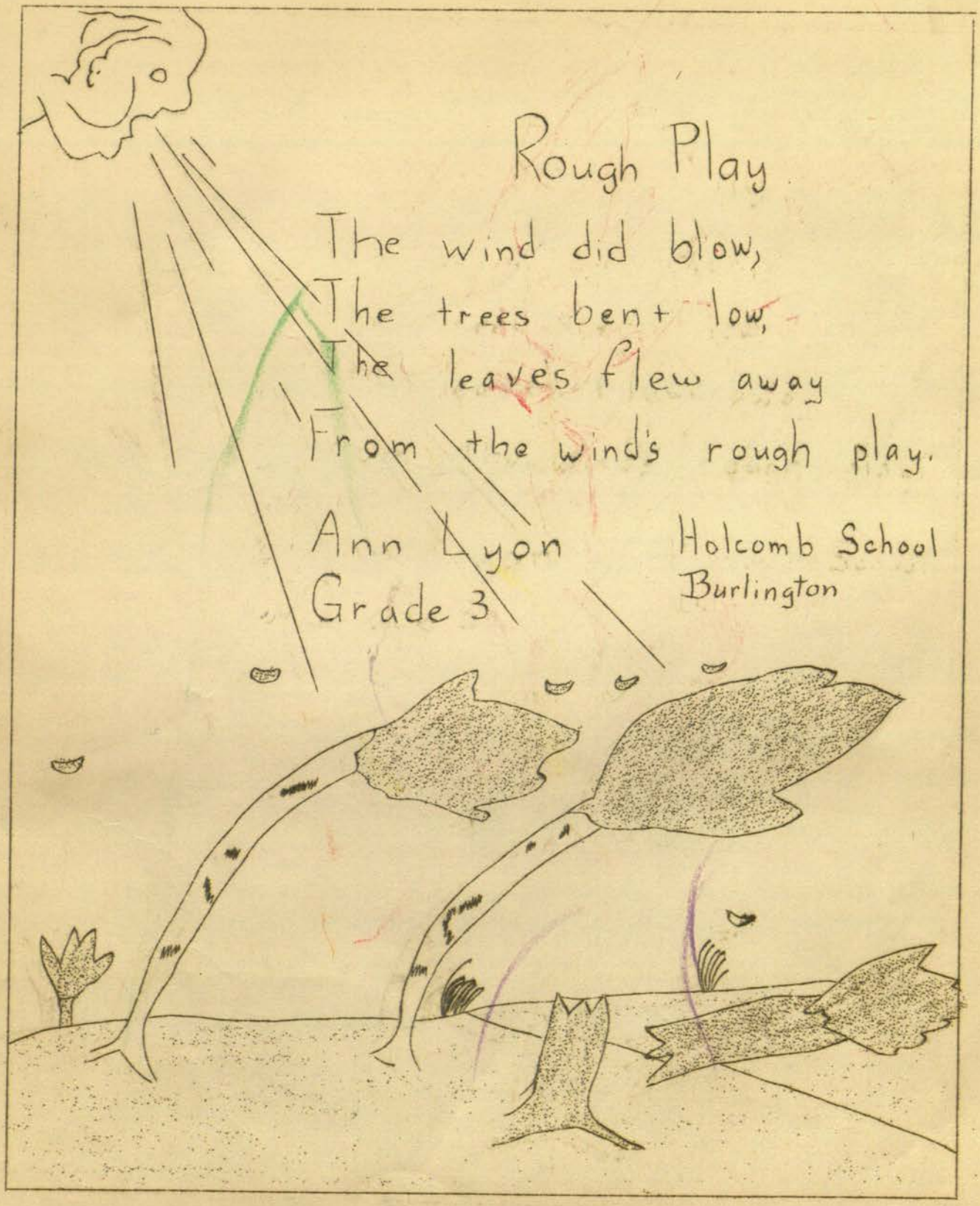


A Tough Wind

How the trees bent to the ground!
They swung around and 'round
How the wind through trees did moan
It made the oaks and maples groan.

Carl Royko
Grade 4

Holcomb School
Burlington


Rough Play
The wind did blow,
The trees bent low,
The leaves flew away
From the wind's rough play.
Ann Lyon
Grade 3
Holcomb School
Burlington

New Britain Water Co. Pond Flooded

Ernest Hinman's Pond, as it is called, used to run the Old Saw Mill, which fell over the bank a while ago. In this hurricane the pond flooded over its banks, while two brooks rushed madly into it. The brooks were flooded to river size.

Marjorie Hogan, Grade 7, Burlington Center School

Flood -- No School

During the flood we didn't have school for two days. Our teacher's house was surrounded by water. Her house is on a bank across the road from the river. It has a garden in front of it. The river is the Housatonic and it was the highest it has ever been known to be. The water rose up over the road and part way up on the garden. The water was eight feet deep around the house.

Helen Hinman, Grade 6, Burlington Center School

After the Storm

After the storm, I went down to Unionville to see the bridge that had washed away. When we came almost to the edge of the bridge, a woman and a little girl came and stood in front of us. After a while, the woman said to the little girl, "Wouldn't it be swell if there was a shoot the shoot down into the river?" I felt like telling her that she could go down it if she wanted to but I wouldn't. We looked across the river and the barber shop was taken right down into the river and a lot of boards and irons were down too.

Lois Schneider, Grade 6, Burlington Center School

Old Man Hurricane

When the hurricane struck, it damaged many homes and people. Burlington didn't get as much as other towns. In fact Burlington didn't get any compared to Unionville and Collinsville and other places. One of my neighbors, Mrs. Helmer Carlson, had a beautiful big maple tree in her side yard, and at the first of the hurricane it blew over. It gave Mr. Carlson a lot of wood for winter fires. That shows it did some good too.

Ruth Campbell, Grade 5, Burlington Center School

Disaster

In nineteen hundred and thirty-six
The State of Connecticut was in a fix
For Mother Nature her floods let go
It was a terrible time you know.

Now in nineteen hundred and thirty-eight
Again Connecticut met it's fate
Only this time with it a hurricane came
The high winds were terrible, also the rain.

Down went chimneys and great big trees
The roofs off farms and silos please
Railroad tracks and bridges strong
By the flood were carried along.

We live high on top of a hill
And didn't get anything much of it--still
Some branches were broken, while the brook was high
But some places got hit badly, My, Oh, My!

Lois Reeve, Grade 6, Burlington Center School

TOWN OF CANTON

The Hurricane

("The Hurricane" is an original story by the pupils in grade one of the Collinsville School. This story was in booklet form and contained colored illustrations made by the children.)

Wednesday we had a hurricane.

The wind blew and blew and blew.

It blew down many trees.

It blew down many poles.

It ruined many garages.

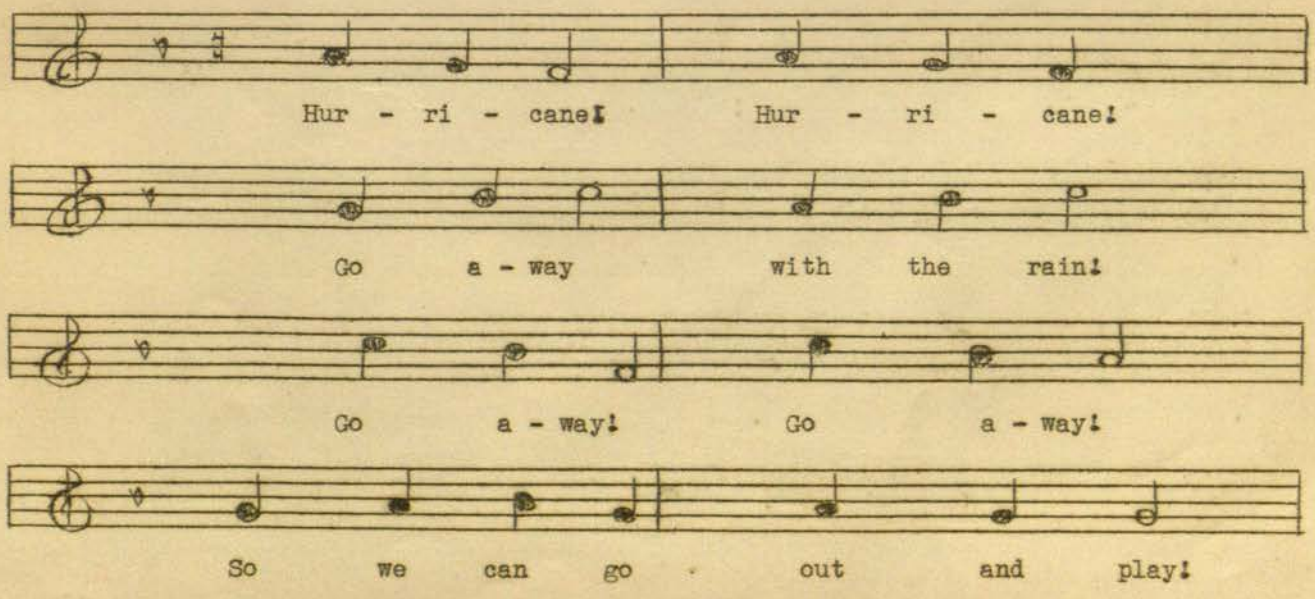
It ruined many houses.

It did a lot of damage.

Eddie said it was just "the

tail end of a hurricane".

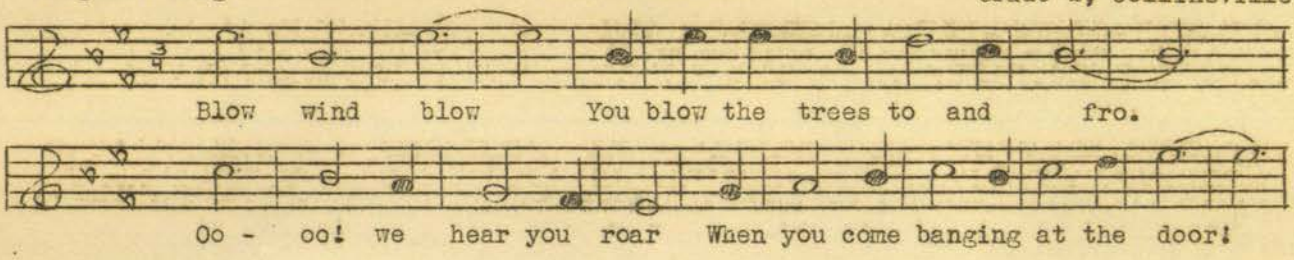
The Hurricane



Music by: Sylvia Anderson, Ronald Gillen, Evelyn Tharau, Jean Fournier.

Words by: Ronald Gillen, Sylvia Anderson

Original Song — Blow Wind Blow — Grade 2, Collinsville



The Hurricane

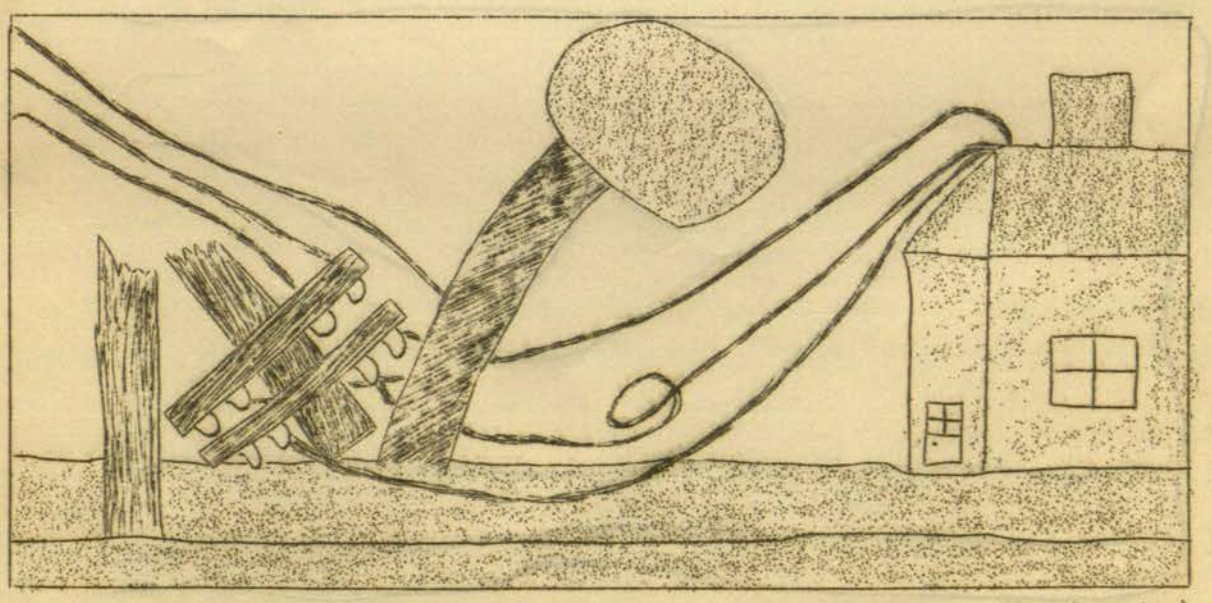
The wind came rattling at the windows,
It banged the shutters against the house,
It blew the trees down to the ground,
It blew the people all around!

Group Poem Story
Grade 2, Collinsville

The Hurricane

Everyone is talking about the hurricane. It came on Wednesday. It rained all day. The wind was strong. It blew many, many trees down. The water was rushing over the road. Everybody was frightened.

Group Story
Grade 2, Collinsville



Paul Malsick
Grade Two
Collinsville

The following three stories were composed by the pupils, printed and illustrated on large charts for the classroom and then made into an attractive illustrated sewed book for the classroom library.

The Hurricane

Wednesday it rained hard. In the afternoon we had a hurricane. The wind blew and blew. It blew so hard trees were pulled up by their roots. Big limbs were blown off. They fell on electric light wires. Telephone poles fell down. In some towns, roofs and chimneys and church steeples were blown off. It was a terrible storm.

Grade 3, Collinsville School

After the Hurricane

After the hurricane many people went out on the streets. They went to see the river. It was rising higher and higher. It came way over the road. The streets were dark because there was no electricity. There were many branches all around. We had to use candles and oil lamps that night. It was an exciting night.

Grade 3, Collinsville School

The Flood

Wednesday night we had a flood. Bridges and roads were washed away. People on the river road had to leave their homes. The water at the dam was so high it flowed over the bridge. The flash boards were all broken. Men at the Collins Company worked all night. They rowed around the shop in boats. They had to move machines and engines to dry places. The flood did a lot of damage.

Grade 3, Collinsville School

The following stories and song were composed by the pupils in grade four of the Collinsville School. The stories were accompanied by original drawings and were put together in an attractive book for the classroom library.

The Storm

Tuesday it was raining. There was a flood over at our house and the wind was blowing hard. The flood was getting bigger and bigger all the time. Soon the water was all around our house. We could not go out of the house and the water went about two feet high in the barn. Some men came in a boat to see another house. We had to let our cows out or they would have drowned. Then we made a raft so we could let our cows out and put the calves on a higher place. Two calves were taken by the water but one was saved by the fence and we got him. One rooster and a calf were drowned. A tree fell by our house too. The water filled the cellar. Our ice-house almost went with the water and many things were on the road. My brother thought the house would go down, but it did not even move. Our whole pasture was covered with water.

Anne Wilusz

The Storm

We had a storm. It was a very bad storm. A tree hit our house. It did not do any damage. It rained all day and all night. I stayed up until twelve o'clock. Everybody was up. We were afraid the dam was going to break but it didn't.

Lloyd Erickson

The Storm

The storm broke one of our pear trees right in half. Anderson's chicken coop yard was just like a pond. There is a big hole near the river. Two big apple trees fell down near Anderson's. A big limb fell down off our cherry tree. A limb cracked and pretty near fell in the road. Irving had to stop his car and walk home to get a saw to saw the limb off so he could get past. I think this storm was an awful storm.

Lorraine Merz

The Hurricane

The Pleasant Valley bridge broke down when we had a very bad storm. It came down the river in one piece, but some of the bottom stopped at a tree. A man went very near the edge where the bridge had broken down and we thought he would fall in. The mother told the children not to go over because it was bad enough if he fell over. I guess it got too shallow for it to float. It looked so big in the river.

Barbara Elston

The Storm

Yesterday there were lots of trees and dams broken by the storm. In our yard there is a tree that started to split but we didn't know it at first until the next door neighbors came running to ask us if they could come over to our house and said that the tree was split. We said, "Yes" and then they went back over to their house and got their children. The man went back over and tried to call on the telephone but the telephone wouldn't ring, so they walked down to get Mr. Whitney. They came back with two men with them. They came up in the yard and looked at the tree. Then they went back to get more men. They came back in a truck with about twelve men so they started to climb the tree. After they started to climb the tree, Mr. Elston came in the yard. The men climbed the tree with chains around their shoulders. When they got to the top of the tree they chained the tree up. Then the men that were at the bottom of the tree threw up ropes and they tied up the tree with ropes too. The tree didn't fall anyway.

Betty Shilosky

(Grade 4 continued)

The Storm

We had a very dreadful storm in Connecticut. The water was over the bridge. An aunt of mine said it was the worst flood since 1886. We went to Hartford yesterday to see the sights. There was a house about twenty-five feet away from a tree that had fallen. People said that Hartford would never be the same again. We saw a tree that had fallen on a car. You could just see the car. There were still a lot of trees in the roads. Sarah, a girl I know, went to Hartford in the morning and she said that the water was high.

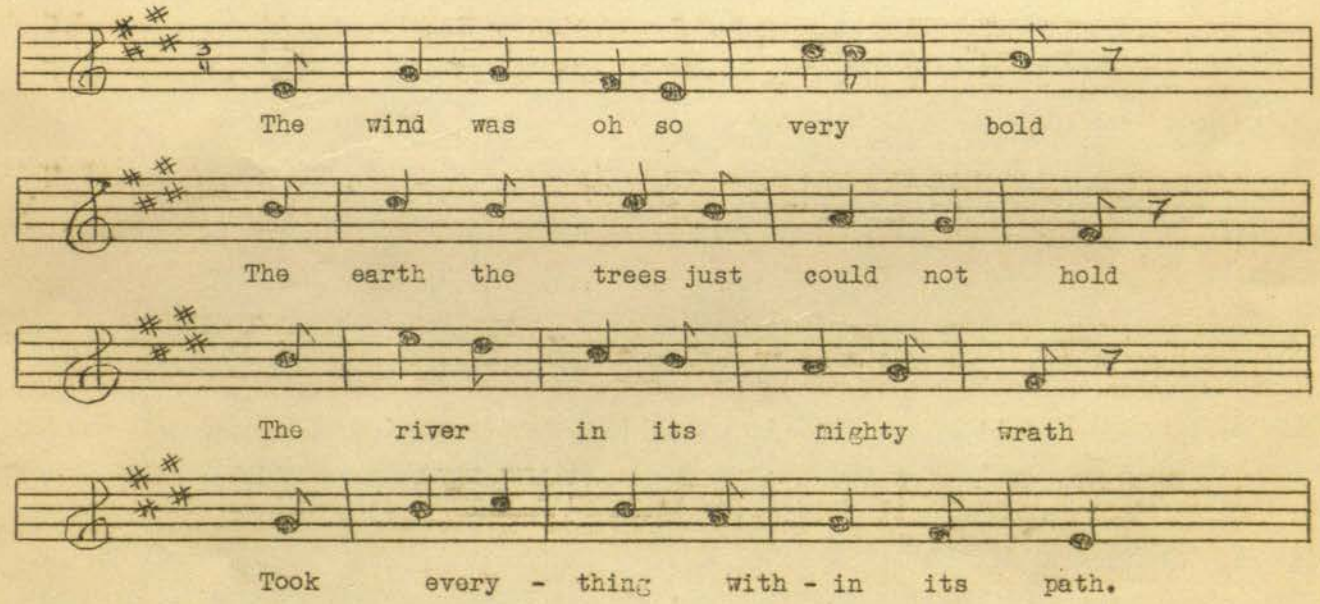
Janice Wilder

The Storm

I was up Doris' when we had the wind storm. Two or three telephone poles fell down. They fell right across the road so no cars could go on the road. I was afraid that I could not get home. Yesterday we went for a ride. We saw many trees torn up by their roots.

Eleanor Munson

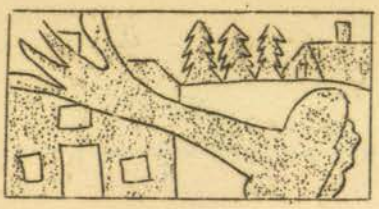
The Hurricane



Original Song by Doris Deming

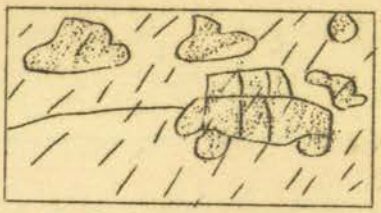
The Hurricane

An original freize with original drawings and stories by pupils of Grade V, Collinsville. The pictures below are miniatures of the original drawings by pupils.



Trees were blown down.
They fell on houses.
Trees were uprooted.

Lorette

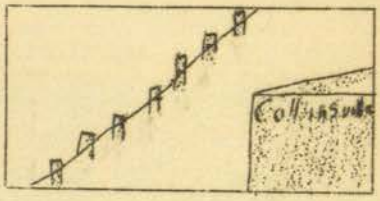


Automobiles were stuck.
Some were damaged.

Jean

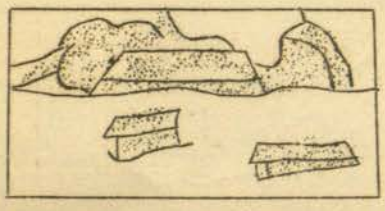
Telephone poles were knocked down.
People were without electric lights and use of telephones.

Michael



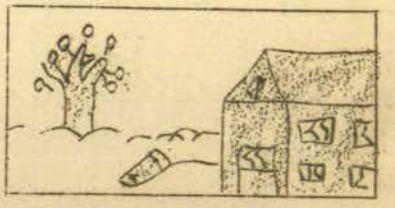
Water went over the River Road.
It flooded the soda shop.

Edward P.



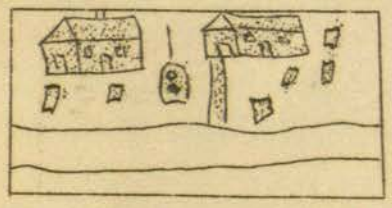
Houses and barns were flooded.
Some were washed away.

Raymond



It flooded the houses on the River Road.
People went around their houses in boats.

Lois

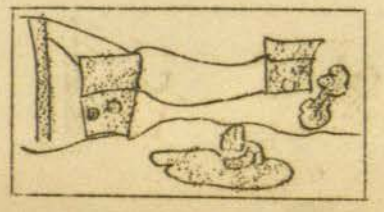


The river rose very high.
It washed many things ashore.

Edward B.

Trees and poles fell across the roads.
They stopped traffic.

Eula



Some people had to row to safety.

Rachel

The following material from grade six of the Collinsville School was put together in a booklet for the classroom library. The booklet also contained many original drawings made by the pupils.

The Hurricane Visits Collinsville

After four days of heavy rain, we received a greater shock when a hurricane entered our town Wednesday afternoon at four o'clock. It destroyed everything in its path. Beautiful shade trees were rocked and rocked until they tottered to the ground. Some landed on houses or lay across the roads. Others supported themselves on telephone or electric wires. Road beds were washed out. People were blown about. One tree was blown to the ground and then blown back to its original position. Windows were blown out of homes and some people were cut by flying glass. The Farmington River rose over its banks and flooded the highways. The people on Arch Street and River Road had to be rescued by rowboats. The Collins Company dam gave out and the force of the water threatened to carry away the big bridge. Silos and chickens were floating down the river. Many people lost their winter's supply of wood. For three days some of us were without lights and telephones, but we all feel lucky when we read about the death and destruction in other towns and cities near us. No one in Collinsville was seriously hurt or died.

Class Story

A Message to the Hurricane

O, Hurricane, O, Hurricane,
You ought to hide your head in shame.
You scurried here, your scurried there
And left the trees all bent and bare.
The electric wires you pulled down,
Caused much hardship in our town.
And telephone poles like toothpicks fell
When they were in your magic spell.
We all gave in; you had your way;
And loved ones with their lives did pay.

But now that you have had your fun
Can you repair what you have done?
But no the damage is too great
If you feel bad, it is too late.
So, hurricane, you stay right home
For you cause trouble when you roam.
We do not care to be your friend
Please do not visit us again.

Class Poem

News Items by Pupils

I saw a house under the arch. A tree had fallen through one end of the house and had come out through a side window. Thomas V.

The hurricane undermined the railroad tracks near Burlington. They resemble the ocean waves now. A train is still stranded in our town because of this.
Thomas D.

My father wasn't working because it rained for four days. We took a ride around town to see the tricks the hurricane played. Arthur

I saw telephone poles, logs, and boxes floating down the river. I also saw a house surrounded by water. Jean

I live on Dyer Avenue. Many trees came down. My mother had to detour all over town in order to get home. Marguerite C.

Raymond told us about his grandfather's cellar. Mr. Barnes' home is on the bank of the Farmington River. The water came up to the ceiling in the cellar. Bottles, boxes, cans of fruit and vinegar jugs were floating around. Allan

(Grade 6 continued)

The water going over the Collinsville Dam had so much force that it broke the flashboards and rose up over the bridge. Mr. Davis waved a lantern to keep cars off the bridge. The bridge was dangerous that night. Raymond G.

The water was up to the bridge in Collinsville. It was unsafe for cars to cross the bridge. It must be a strong bridge though, because it didn't give way as the Unionville bridge did. Robert

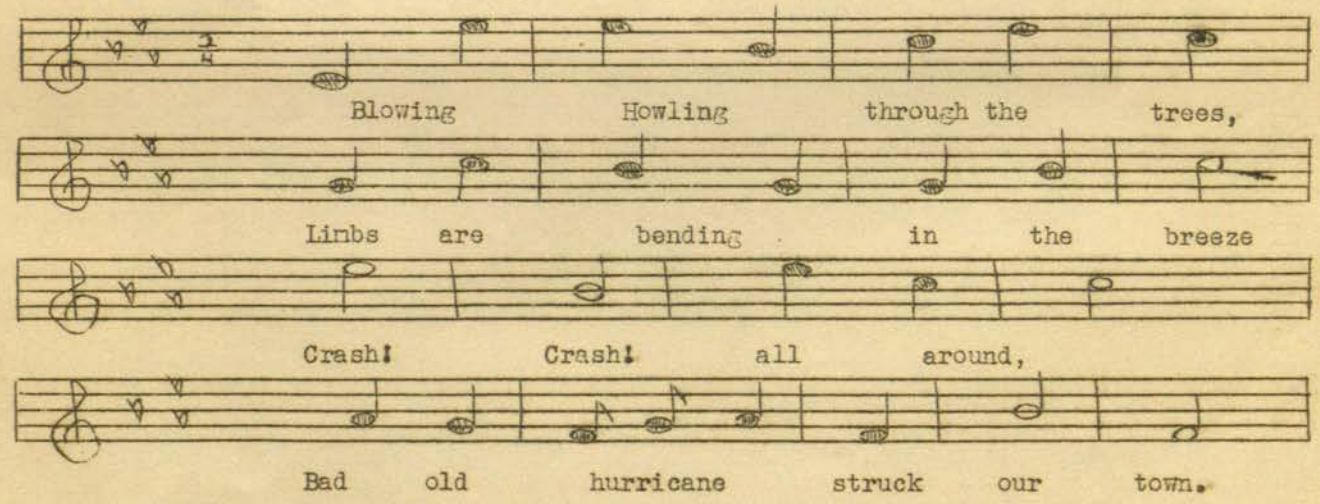
I saw a house in Unionville near the bridge that caved in. Trees were down all around it. Edward

Near the arch in Collinsville the Farmington River rose so high that it washed away the road. All you can see now are big boulders and big holes in the road. Clifford

A big tree crashed down and fell onto the railroad track in front of our house. The train dragged it off the track the next day. Dorothea

A tree was ripped right out of the ground. It was over one-hundred years old. It was planted on Dyer Avenue by one of the first settlers. Carl

Bad Old Hurricane



Original song by class.

The following stories from Grade seven, Collinsville School were taken from their book which they made on the flood and hurricane.

My Flood Experience

I was in the house Wednesday afternoon reading a book when I heard a loud crash. I looked out of the window and there was a limb ready to fall into the road. A car was just passing when the limb fell but it just missed the car's back bumper. As I looked out of the window, I saw our apple tree which is near the house on the side of the hill, and it looked as though it might fall any minute. All of a sudden a big wind came along and took the tree right off its roots. Then two other trees across the road fell down. I had an exciting experience that day.

Albert Guerrini

My Adventure with the Hurricane

One cloudy, rainy day my friend, Betty Sandell, invited me to a birthday party. We were having a very nice time when we heard a crash. We thought it was thunder, but when we looked out the window we saw that a tree had fallen down. It grew dark very fast and Mary and I were the only ones that had not gone home. Betty asked us to stay overnight. After we had finished eating, we heard a car stop and we went to see who it was and there was Mary's mother and father waiting to take us home. Mr. Yarzab let me out in front of my house and when I looked up the river, I saw that the water was over the tracks. I went into the house to let my parents know I was at home. A little later I went over to a neighbors and we went to see the water. It was rising about two inches every ten minutes. It came way up to the top of our top steps which was farther than it had ever been before. I wanted to stay up all night and watch it rise, but I stayed up until about 11:30 and got tired so I went to bed. The next morning I woke up and saw that the water was once again at its normal height.

Elsie Eaton

The Hurricane

On Wednesday, September 21, 1938, we had a big hurricane that did a good deal of damage. Almost everywhere you looked you saw many trees and telephone poles that had fallen down. My mother and I were sitting down on the porch talking when all of a sudden we heard a loud noise. We went up to the road and looked over by Peggy Berg's house. We saw two big limbs that had fallen. They didn't hit Peggy's house but they fell very near it.

Edgar Poirrier

The Flood of 1938

On Thursday, September 22, 1938, my father said that he would take us to see the Nepaug Dam, so we got into the car and went. When we got there it looked like Niagara Falls and there was even a rainbow in the falls. Afterward we went to see the Unionville Bridge, but we did not see much because it had been washed out. We tried to go to Hartford but the Farmington road was flooded so we turned around and went home.

Oliver Godard

My Flood Experience

Up at our house there is a large brook which runs through our pasture. We had it dammed up to make a swimming pool. When the flood came, instead of washing the dam out, the water backed way up into the woods. When it came down through the pasture it washed away a lot of the dirt. The cows were up on the mountain on the other side of the brook, and it rose so fast they couldn't get across. They kept coming up to the bars and lowing. When we missed them, I put on my boots and raincoat and went looking for them. I saw them on the other side of what had once been a brook but which was now a young river. There was an old bridge which had floated downstream, so I got on and shoved off. As I floated down I headed for the other side. I had to swim the cattle across. There were fifteen of them, but one of them was missing. I climbed all over the mountain and finally found her. When I got them to the barn, they were all wet and it was a very unpleasant job to milk them.

Steve Turner

(Grade seven stories continued.)

The Hurricane and Flood

On Wednesday, September 21, 1938, there was a hurricane. I was reading when it started. I didn't know what was happening. Just as I looked out of the window, a spruce tree fell across the road. I ran upstairs and told my mother. Then I went downstairs again and looked out of the window. A big branch fell across our telephone wire. It was still there Monday morning until the men took it off. At 6:30 P.M. the hurricane stopped but after it stopped the waters began to rise and Wednesday night you could not get down the River Road. You could only get as far as Mr. Barnes' house for the water was right up to his front door. The next morning, the River Road was all muddy. All the people were sweeping mud and water out of their houses, and they had the furniture out in the sun drying. Then the flood of 1938 was over. Marguerite Atwood

The Flood of 1938

The day after the flood, I did not know that there was school, so I did not go. Bobby Gustafson and I went for a walk up the railroad tracks. We looked down at the soft ball grounds and there was a small river down there. I looked under the Grange Hall and there was some water under it. We went back to the road and walked up the River Road. We saw quite a few trees down from the hurricane, and someone's porch steps had gone with the flood. We noticed that some of the people had clothes and furniture out in the yard and on porches drying. I found a small green pumpkin on the fence with part of the vine. The mud, weeds, and sticks on the wire fences made them look as though they had rugs on them. Later Bobby and I went to watch the dam. The water was roaring over it. Margaret Berg

Hurricane and Flood

There was a flood and hurricane,
It knocked down posts and trees,
The rain fell long and steady,
And the water reached our knees.

The wind blew fast and furious,
And houses shook and rattled,
It almost took our breath away
As on our way we battled.

And when the storm was over,
We hastened down the street,
What havoc and destruction,
On all sides we did meet.

Albert Guerrini

The 1938 Flood and Hurricane

On Sunday, September 18, 1938, a rainstorm started that lasted about four days. On Wednesday of that week, we had one session in school. At about two-thirty in the afternoon, the wind started blowing very hard. At three o'clock I went over to a store to get an airplane. I was stranded there for fifteen minutes because of the wind. Then I went around the block part way and came to the place where my sister was staying. We started to leave for home but just as we went out the door, a big tree went down by my house and we decided to stay a little longer. About twenty minutes later we again started and another tree was uprooted right beside us. We finally reached home via the school-yard. On Thursday noon we had another one session and I went down to the shop with my father. There I saw mud six inches deep being shoveled out by workmen. I also learned that this flood was about three feet higher than the one in 1878, and four feet higher than the one in 1936. The buildings had water marks on them at about nine feet high. These flood records are for the Collins Company only. Lloyd Elston

The Hurricane of 1938

On Wednesday, September 21, 1938, we had a hurricane which did lots of damage. It broke telephone wires and knocked down trees and garages and the high water that came with it flooded some of the houses. In some places trees fell on

(Grade seven stories continued.)

cars. In Windsor the roads were blocked because of the damage. We had one session of school. People couldn't go to Hartford because the roads were blocked by the high water. Josephine Rembock

The Hurricane and Flood

On Wednesday, September 21, 1938, there was a hurricane. It blew one side of our barn down. My brother and I were in the barn attending to the cow, when the side of the barn fell down. We did not get hurt and neither did the cow.

Robert Conkin

The Hurricane and Flood

We had a hurricane and flood all at once we did,
And it's a hurricane and flood that no one will forget,
The trees were torn up by the roots and houses rocked and shook,
The oldest elm tree in the state lost most of it's big branches
The trucks and cars that hurried home were taking many chances.
When morning came the rain had stopped and all was bright and fair
But fallen trees and houses wrecked seemed to be everywhere.

Ann Reed

Angry Waters

The rain came down in torrents,
At least ten inches fell,
The rivers roared and tumbled,
And o'er their banks did swell.

The people ran in terror,
From places near the flood,
As swirling, muddy waters,
Came pouring o'er the road.

It was a night of worry,
And hearts were filled with woe,
As angry waters slowly
Back to their banks did flow.

Mary Yarzab

The Flood

On Wednesday, September 21, 1938, my father started for the store, but when he got half way there he got stuck for there was a lot of mud on the road. He walked back again to get somebody to help him get the car out, but when my father saw the car again the water had nearly reached the car roof. They could not get it out that night because the water was so high. The next morning some men helped him get it out with a rope. It was covered with mud and my father had to take it to a garage to be fixed. I hope we don't have any more floods. Eunice Roy

The Flood and Hurricane

One September day the flood started. At first the wind did not blow hard. I was down to Betty Sandell's when it started. We heard a croaking noise and a tree across the street fell down. A little while later my mother and father came after me. We tried to get through to Unionville but we couldn't. Thursday night we went to Unionville and saw the bridge that had broken. It gave way in the middle and was a terrible sight. We wanted to go to Hartford but Mother was afraid we wouldn't be able to get back. It blew hundreds of trees down. I'm glad it has gone and I hope we never have another. Lena Woodard

The Flood and Hurricane of 1938

When I got home from school early Wednesday the wind was blowing very hard. I went into the house and had only been in there a few minutes when a tree fell down very near my father's car. I went into my room to see if my brother was at home, and I looked out of the window and saw that the side of the garage was out. I found my brother in another room beside a broken pane of glass. We went looking for our cat and heard a "meow" down in the cellar. I looked up on a pole and found the cat. It was all dry around where she was but I guess she thought she'd provide for the future. I hope we don't have anymore floods and hurricanes.

Avis Davidson

The following material from Grade eight, Collinsville School was taken from a record book which they made for their classroom library. The record book also contained original drawings.

Our Tree

Last Wednesday we had one session. Afterward I was reading in the living room when the wind came up. I went upstairs to read because I could then look out the window too. After about thirty minutes, I heard a cracking sound. It was an old tree in our front yard. It was partly over the side of the house that I was in so I ran and told my brother that the tree was going to fall and I was afraid that it would fall on the house. He said the wind was going the wrong way. Then we both watched it. It kept swaying and cracking. Finally there was a loud crack and just part of the tree fell. We expected it all to go but it didn't. When my mother came home, she said that she had been worrying all day for fear that the tree would fall on the house.

Gertrude Goodrich

High Spot

Wednesday afternoon I went to see the flood. First I went down by the river road and saw that the tank up at the ball ground had moved. The fence was covered with leaves and sticks. There was a big hole in the road. At Barnes' the water was up around the house. Then I went to the Town Bridge. The road was all washed out. The bridge was shut off. In the sand pit there was a lot of water.

Dick Gorgen

High Spots

On the 21st day of September 1938, a hurricane hit part of New England. It was terrible. It did much damage all over. That night Gilbert Berube took Edward, Mrs. Berube, Gilbert's wife and me riding. First we went to Burlington to see some bank wash-outs. Then we went up towards Burlington Center. On one lawn six very tall trees were uprooted. I bet the fellow who lives there was plenty mad because he has to plant all new grass. After that we came back to Collinsville. We then went up towards Huckleberry Hill and went over that way towards Unionville to see the damage. When we got a little way past the center of Unionville, we saw men working and sawing the trees that were torn down. There were trees hanging on the wires. In some places, the telephone poles were down. The wires were massed up with the poles and trees. The bridge in Unionville was washed away. After that, we came back to Collinsville. First we went up to see Mike Malsicks Bottling Works. The water was very high around there. On the way back, the water by Hutchins' was going over the road already. The Berubes left me off at my house. I wanted to see how deep the water was over near Follerts. When I got there, I was surprised to see two cars stuck in the water. The water was up to the door handle on the car. They got one out but the other which was a nice Plymouth was stuck for the night. That was an exciting day for me. After that I wanted to go home and hit the hay but my brother wanted me to go down by the bridge, so I went down with him. We went over the bridge. I was standing on the corner of the bridge and the waves were splashing on me. I got wet so I told my brother I was going home and right to bed.

John Danila

Water and More Water

It had rained for three days and the water was rising fast. I was staying at my Grandmother's house because my mother and father were in Maine for a week. I went to bed early the night of the flood. About eleven o'clock they woke me up. They said my Father's garage was flooded. I got dressed and went downstairs and then we went downstreet in my Grandfather's car. We saw Claire's father stopping cars from going to Winsted. We saw trees down in the road. The water was very high so we stayed out until about twelve-thirty that night. The next morning we went around and saw the damage it did. We went over to Pine Meadow but they wouldn't let us near the water.

Billy Bristol

(Grade eight stories continued.)

Sightseeing

The flood started the twenty-first of September and we had one session. The water was rising very fast. Stella and I decided to take a walk to see the flood damages. We started up the river road just before the water was over the road. It was a sight to see the water splash high and many things floating down. When we passed Barne's house, the water was quite high. Their apple trees were flooded. Finally we reached the Town Bridge. Trees and telephones were half covered with dirty water. The trees were bending over very low, touching the water. It was raining hard and we had only one umbrella. We decided to start back to see how the bridge across the river was. The water was fiercely going over the dam. It was so high we could feel it splash. We stayed there a few minutes to see the logs and other things go over, then we started for home and had to dry our clothes because we were just wet with water.

Claire Henry

Life's Darkest Moment

It was late afternoon. The cold wind whistled around our house as I came into it. The wind was blowing until night and it blew down many trees. All day the water was rising until, in the night, it was over all the road. When I got through doing my chores, I measured the water and it raised one inch in three minutes. About an hour later, I couldn't get out of the house without getting wet up to my neck. The water looked like Niagara Falls coming down our cellar stairs. We had to let our calves out to keep them from getting drowned. They swam to the porch and waited until the water went down. That night two calves were lost. The next morning we found one of them in the hills eating. We lost about ten ducks.

Peter Wilusz

The Flood

On September twenty-first of 1938 we had a half day of school. It was raining terribly hard out and I thought I would get soaked before I got home, but I got a ride when I was nearly half way there. When I got home, I ate my dinner and want into my room to read. I didn't realize the storm was as bad as it was until it was nearly over. My cousin came in and said a lot of trees were falling. I was greatly surprised. That night there was a lot of excitement going on. I was up nearly all night watching the house below us. The yard was all flooded and some men brought a boat so the people could get out. They refused to get out until the water reached their first floor. I went to bed at one o'clock in the morning.

Leona Young

Wet Clothes

On September the 21st, 1938 the worst flood in Collinsville's history came. When I went out to get my mother's water-logged clothes, the wind nearly swept me off my feet. Besides the wind there was a terrible rain. I got drenched to the skin and the wind also blew my umbrella inside out as fast as I could turn it back. Seeing it was no use to have an umbrella, I went outside without one. When I came into the house, I put on dry clothes and looked out of the window. A big popular tree was swaying. One time it swayed way down almost to the ground. I thought it was going. The next time it blew right over and went down very evenly and slowly. Every window that I looked from a tree was falling. After a while it let up. The electricity wasn't on so we had to do the best we could cooking on an oil stove and having kerosene lamps and some candles. That night, the water rose over the bridge. They wouldn't let you cross only at your own risk. The electricity came on later in the week.

Eleanor Berggren

Leaves

Leaves, leaves falling on the ground
Leaves, leaves flying all around
But not making a single sound.

Nancy Rowell, Grade 3, Canton Street School

At Stony Creek

At Stony Creek many homes and boats were washed away by water. Many people were drowned. The guards were there watching the beach so nobody would come and steal. There was furniture and many other things in the wreckage.

Jimmie Lowell, Grade 4, Canton Street School

The Hurricane

After school on September 21, 1938 there was a hurricane. It blew down many trees. There was much damage. The school fence was blown over. I helped carry it away and take out the nails. One of my father's trees was blown over. It almost fell on our neighbor's car. My mother and father were in Hartford during the storm. I stayed with one of our neighbors. Daniel Dyer, Grade 4, Canton Street School

Our School Fence

The hurricane blew so hard it knocked down our school fence. The boys were good workers in clearing away the fence. They put the wood under the school steps.

Gertrude Stickles, Grade 5, Canton Street School

A Ride After the Hurricane

We went for a ride after the hurricane. There were trees across the road so we could not pass. We saw wires and telephone poles in the street. We saw water over bridges. Limbs were on top of houses. A barn was turned over.

Georgianna Barnes, Grade 2, Canton Street School

The Hurricane

On September 21, 1938 the hurricane struck Connecticut. My father's boat was in the Connecticut River when the hurricane hit Old Lyme. The boat broke the rope which held the anchor. She went up the river through the drawbridge and broke her mast. She beached herself about three feet from a runway. She was not scratched.

Carl Judin, Grade 5, Canton Street School

The Rain

It rained for four days. The meadow road was flooded and the brook was up high.

Arline Jepsen, Grade 3
Canton Center School

The Hurricane

September 22, 1938 we had a hurricane. The wind blew everywhere, and it blew swiftly. The wind blew down trees and the trees fell on houses. Many people were killed and many homes were blown away.

Kenneth King, Grade 4
Canton Center School

The Dam

Yesterday Jepsen's dam was washed out. The water washed the road out too. It washed Foot's driveway all out. It rained very hard.

Carolyn Ann Richardson, Gr. 3
Canton Center School

A Strong Wind

The wind blew very very hard. It blew down trees everywhere. It took houses off of their foundations and barns collapsed. It must have been an awful noise to hear them.

Carolyn Ann Richardson, Gr. 3
Canton Center School

The Flood

The rain flooded all the roads. The school bus had to go around and the place looked like a sound.

Dickie Unsworth, Grade 3
Canton Center School

A Wind and Rain Storm

Last night David came down from getting the cows. He had only found one of them, so Willard and I went after them. In the woods the water was up to my knees. I heard the bell of one of the cows. I finally found the other cows and started to chase them home. I could not catch them until they came to an apple tree where they started eating apples.

The Farmington River in front of our house was very high. Across the river the water in Mr. Murfynks house was three to five inches deep. The water was level with the highway bridge and was hitting the railroad bridge. The water on the state road was three feet deep so that the cars could not pass. On the way to New Hartford the water was six feet. In Hartford three new cars were parked in a row. A tree fell on them and smashed them.

Jack Codaire, Grade 8
South Center School

Clearing the Trees

Friday some men came to clear the trees in front of our school. First they took away the fence. A man went up in the tree. Another man threw him a rope. He caught it and tied himself to another tree. He began to chop. Soon the tree fell. The man was left hanging there. He made a slip knot in the rope and came down. When he got down he said, "If I had had that rope around my neck I would have hung". They sawed up the tree that was down. Then they sawed down the other tree.

Buddy Jepsen, Grade 7
South Center School

The Storm

In New Britain there were about one hundred trees down. Next to my uncle's bottling works, a tree six feet in diameter fell on a house. It did not hurt the house. Many people in New Britain were warned to be ready to move if the Shuttle Meadow Dam broke.

Glenna Forker, Grade 6
South Center School

The Storm at Canton Center

The night of the hurricane Harold Humphrey brought the ice. I went out on the porch and Harold told me the light had gone out. I told him I guessed the bulb had burned out. I went in the house and told mother. She said that all the lights were out. Frances told us to look out the window and we saw a big tree that had fallen from Johnson's yard. A car came. The driver saw the tree in the middle of the road. He turned around and started toward Humphrey's house. When he got there a big tree had fallen and blocked the road. He turned around again and came back. He parked his car in front of our house and went down to look at the tree. He found a way around the tree. A line of cars had formed in front of our house. People got out and took axes

and other tools that they needed and began to cut limbs from the tree. By and by they cleared a way so they all got through. We went to look at Cherry Brook. The water got higher and higher. It started running into our garden. It got as high as six or seven feet. We didn't have any water, lights, or telephone. Daddy carried water from the spring at Ingrabens. The road leading to the bridge had at least two feet of water over it. The next morning when I got up, the brook was just about the same size as it usually is.

Elizabeth Sechrist, Grade 5
South Center School

An Exciting Storm

Wednesday, September 21, 1938 an exciting storm came up. The family was in the house except my father. The wind roared. The rain came down rapidly. A loud noise came to our ears. We ran to the window and found a limb from our maple tree down. We heard water running. We ran to the kitchen and saw water running down from the ceiling. We got pails and pans and put them on the floor. I ran upstairs to get some rags. I heard water trickling. I looked in the closet and saw tar dripping down on some clothes. It was getting late, and my mother lit the oil stove. The wind began to blow. The flames came out of the top, sides, and bottom of the stove. The wind slowed down and the fire began to burn. That was the end of our exciting day.

Marjorie Hess, Grade 6
South Center School

The Hurricane

There came a day in September,
That I always shall remember
When everywhere the wind did blow
And it put on a great free show.

The rain poured down
All around the town,
Until it made a monstrous flood
And washed up many piles of mud.

It washed away many bridges
Blew doors right off their hinges
It blew down fields of corn
Pity, it did scorn.

Down poured the rain
And ruined fields of grain
The corn looked like an old broken city
That wind it didn't have a bit of pity.

Frederick Humphrey, Grade 7
South Center School

Cutting the Tree

During the hurricane the wind blew a tree down in front of the school and knocked the top off of another tree and the other tree stayed on top of the fallen tree. Some men came to clear the tree from the road and wires. They first chopped and sawed the limbs off. One of the men was on the top of the tree. He was chopping off the limbs of the tree. He had to put a rope around him so he could chop off the limb which would make the tree fall to the ground. The tree fell but caught on the trunk of the other tree. He cut another limb which made the tree fall to the ground. He was left hanging in the air. The men let him down by a rope.

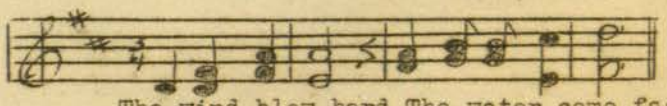
Jack Codaire, Grade 8
South Center School

A Close Call

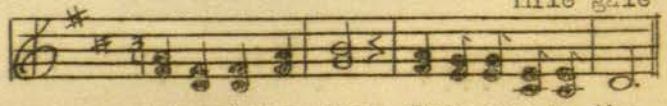
Wednesday when the hurricane came my brother Sam was at the Eastern States Exposition showing his heifer. He had his heifer in a tent with about one hundred other animals. When he saw the tent poles jump about a foot into the air, he took his heifer out. About twenty animals were still inside and a boy was injured. Sam helped carry him to the first aid station. They had just started to fix the boy when the hurricane tore off the roof. Rushing out they saw the roof of the grandstand come crashing down to earth. Bricks from the grandstand went clear down to the horsebarns which were about a quarter of a mile away.

Frederick Humphrey, Grade 7
South Center School

The Hurricane



The wind blew hard The water came fas
The wind from the ocean blew a hundre
mile gale



A hurricane worse Than any in the
past
The water rushed in Over hill and
dale.

Original Song by Arlyne Richardson, Gr. 8
South Center School

The Hurricane

Yesterday it was raining very hard when we went home from school. At first the wind came from the east. Some boards came off from the east side of the tobacco shed which we use for a chicken coop. Then there was a quiet spell. Pretty soon a strong wind came from the southwest. On our farm, eight trees went down. A tree over by the church hit our electric wires so we have no lights at school. In front of the Canton Center School there are two trees down. At Collinsville the road in two places was flooded. The hurricane did very much damage up here. It was supposed to hit Florida on September 20, 1938 but it came up the coast very rapidly and hit us September 21, 1938.

Doris Langer, Grade 7, North Canton School

The Hurricane

September 21, 1938 it rained very hard all afternoon and night. The wind blew many trees down. Up to LeGeyt's the men had to go out in the middle of the storm and nail the roof down. Across from our house, the brook was just like a river. A tree up by the church split in half. The electric lights and telephones were all out of order. We had to use Mr. Zematis' lantern in our house. There was a window broken in our house. The water came in. We had to bale it out.

Beatrice Gracy, Grade 8, North Canton School

The Hurricane

The hurricane washed the roads. I saw it rain very hard. The wind blew many big trees down. It blew branches all around. I saw our apple trees fall down.

Naomi Messenger, Grade 3, North Canton School

The Hurricane

In a hurricane the wind blows hard
And blows the leaves around the yard.

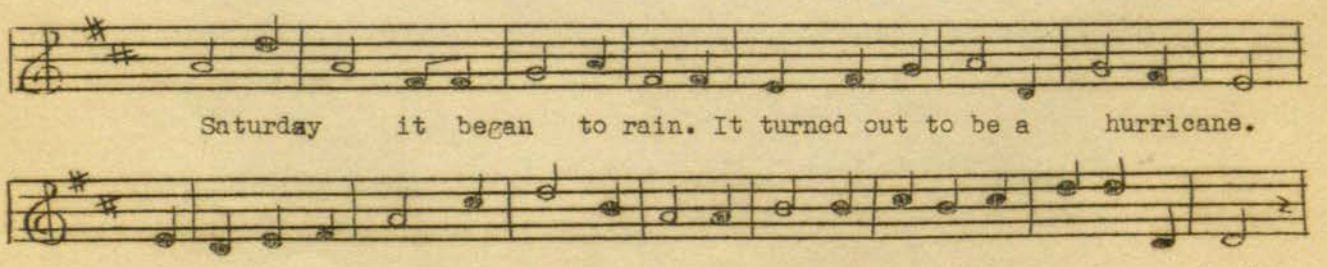
Chimneys are falling here and there
Branches are falling everywhere.

There are no radios or lights
Very few people are sleeping these night

The very thing you wanted to keep
Is probably in some town in a big heap.

Mary Johnson, Grade 7, North Canton School

The Hurricane



Original song by Beatrice Gracy and Lempi Jarvi, Grade 8, North Canton School.

The Storm

It was raining hard. The wind was blowing hard. The water was running down our yard. The water was running over the road. The water was almost over the bridge. The limbs broke off of the trees. We couldn't go outside.

Betty Calabrese, Grade 2, East Hill School

The Lake

I went down to the lake. When I got there I saw all the rowboats that were piled up on the hotel lawn. All the trees were down and the raft was gone. There had been a boat house by the lake but it was gone too.

George Joyce, Grade 5, East Hill School

After the Hurricane

We went for a ride on Sunday. We rode through Avon and saw the remains of the hurricane. There were about four or five tobacco sheds down at Mr. Strong's and Mr. Woodford's. They were able to get out all the tobacco that was in them. There were some maple trees down there too that hadn't been chopped up yet. When we passed one farm, we went over a flat where telephone poles were still down and wires were still broken. Then we came back home over the Dry Bridge.

Christine Olson, Grade 6, East Hill School

The Hurricane

On Wednesday, September 21, 1938 the wind was blowing very hard. It was raining too. It flooded the roads. All kinds of trees were blown over. Some of them fell in the fields. Some of them fell in the roadway. Others fell near the houses. In Hartford people had to hold on to poles to keep from being blown away. The wires were blown down and people had no electric lights or telephones. Bridges were washed out and dams broken. Roadways were torn up. Windows were blown out. Silos and barns were blown down. Some people were killed when trees and buildings fell on them.

Carl Olson, Grade 4; George Joyce, Grade 5, East Hill School

The Hurricane

On the day of the hurricane at our house it was awful. Our attic window blew in because the wind was blowing so hard. That made the wind push out the shingles so we had to put all new shingles on the house. It rained so much that it filled up the pond and made it overflow. When the water came over the pond, it didn't even go through the tunnel; it went over the road. It was about three inches at the deepest point. In our orchard it did a great deal of damage. It blew good apple trees down.

Euro Luntta, Grade 8, East Hill School

TOWN OF EAST GRANBY

The Hurricane

The hurricane came on a rainy day,
In the middle of the week on a Wednesday,
The sun shone bright in the afternoon,
But little did we know what was coming soon.

The rain came down and the wind blew,
We tried to think what we should do,
Sitting near the windows making books,
Once in a while we'd take a look.

School was over, that rainy day,
And we were home to stay and play,
The school began to sway and sway,
And finally some of it blew away!

Grades 3 and 4, Center School

The Hurricane

The hurricane came on September 2, 1938. It came on a Wednesday. It blew our school down about four o'clock. Miss Colomino and Miss Smith left ten minutes before it happened. It blew all of our school papers out of the windows. Lillian O'Brien picked them up and dried them. The school piano was almost ruined. The keys were broken. We stayed out of school two days. The hurricane broke the school victrola. It did a great deal of damage to our desks. The ceiling fell down, books and papers blew out, furniture and windows were broken, and all the things we were working on were lost. I was glad the school children weren't in school when it happened.

Beverly Fletcher, Gr. 4, Center School

The Hurricane

The hurricane came about four o'clock in the afternoon. The children were on their way home from school. The school building was badly damaged. It looked as if it couldn't be put together again. We didn't go to school for two days. We went to school the next Monday at the Town Hall. Our desks were all scratched and some of them were broken. We had to use cardboard over our desk tops. A few of the desks were not damaged. When we were at the Town Hall, we didn't have a big place to play. We kept watching the men building the Center School again. It seemed as if we would never move back again.

John Phillips, Gr. 4, Center School

The Hurricane

One day, on Wednesday, there was a hurricane. The children were home from school. Lots of big trees fell down. Helen, Florence, my mother, two brothers, and I went for a ride. I said, "Let's go see what happened to the Center School". My brother said, "Yes, we will go to the Center School and see if it is down". When we came to the school, we saw that both of its sides were down. My mother was frightened and she was sad because she thought that probably someone was hurt. My brother was sad too.

Victoria Burel, Gr. 4, Center School

The Hurricane Hits East Granby

On the day of Wednesday, September 21, 1938, a hurricane hit New England. On the day of the hurricane, it was very rainy. Around four o'clock, the wind started to blow very hard. This kept up for about an hour, and at five o'clock it was all over. When people started to look around, they were amazed to find both walls of the Center School blown in. On Monday morning the children in the upper grades went on the bus over to the Falls School. The little children went to school in the Town Hall. A big elm tree fell on the church in East Granby damaging the roof. Many large trees on East Granby Street were blown down. Trees fell on two or three houses in town damaging them badly. Many people had tobacco sheds blow down, many of them with tobacco in them. One of my father's barns burned up and another one blew into the road. We had no electric lights or telephones for about three weeks. The hurricane caused much damage in New England, and everybody hopes there will never be another one.

Thomas Viets, Grade 8, Center School

How the Hurricane Damaged Our School

It was late Wednesday afternoon, September 21, 1938, when all of a sudden the wind began to blow hard. It was a rainy day, but afterwards it began to pour. Then the lights went out. We all thought it was just going to be a hard storm, but it turned out to be much worse. When we were dismissed, we went out of doors. It could hardly stand up because the wind was so strong. An hour after we left school, the building was damaged. Nobody was injured. They saved whatever they could get out of the building. Wires were broken in front of our school, and we were very disappointed when we heard what had happened. People talked about the damages done to the Center School and other places. They also took pictures of the school. The upper room went to the Falls School, and the primary grades went to the Town Hall. We went to the Falls School for six weeks on the bus. Carpenters and bricklayers worked on our building. When it was completely repaired, we returned and were glad to be back. People hope nothing like that will happen again.

Mary Hayes, Grade 8, Center School

The Hurricane

On Wednesday, September 21, 1938, about an hour after all the school children had left, the hurricane hit the Center School. The lower room was almost ruined. Part of the ceiling fell through onto the piano and on the floor. Many of the desks and chairs were broken and scattered. Miss Colombino's desk was scratched in places and her books and papers got wet. In the upper room the hurricane blew in part of the attic and all the big windows on the west side fell out. Papers were blown all over the room and the books in the bookcase were lying on the floor. Some of them were wet, some of them were not. Many books, the flag, the radio, and other things were taken to the teacher's room which wasn't damaged. In the library, rain leaked through onto the table, however, none of the books were damaged. While the Center School was being rebuilt, the children in the lower grades went to school at the Town Hall. The upper grades went to the Falls School. About two months later, we came back to the Center School. The hurricane did a lot of damage and also proved that homes, schools, sheds, and other buildings should be built stronger and safer.

Lillian Blomquist, Grade 8, Center School

East Granby in the Hurricane

On September 21, 1938, East Granby experienced the worst hurricane it ever knew. This was perhaps the first time a hurricane ever came here. Our school had both of its sides blown in and we had to go to the Falls School until it was repaired. Trees, barns, houses, and many other things were blown down. The traffic was stopped until the state men could make a way for the cars to pass. A big tree by our house blew across the road and it wasn't until ten o'clock that night that the men had cleared the road for traffic. The hurricane originated in the tropics and followed the coast line up to New England. The radio issued storm warnings thus preparing the people for the hurricane. Everybody hopes that nothing like it will ever happen again.

Albert Misiak, Grade 8, Center School

The Damage Brought by the Hurricane

On September 21, 1938 the hurricane came. The day was very cloudy. No one thought that there would be a hurricane. Then the wind started to blow. It took the grapevine off our chicken coop. We all thought that the tobacco sheds would blow down. First Albert and I went out to get the cow so that a tree would not fall on her. Then we went to see whether our tobacco shed blew down. The wind was so strong that it threw Albert into the brook. I laughed at him, but then I fell in. I did not laugh again. I did not hear about the damage at our school until the next day. Albert and I went to see the school. Marilyn Viets was taking pictures. There were many people looking at the school. Some of the farmers were very sad because

they had lost their tobacco sheds. Many of them contained tobacco. My brother "Joe" and I went the next day to see what the hurricane had done around the countryside. Many people were taking their damaged tobacco out of the sheds. Most of the people felt sad because all their work had gone to waste.

Along with the hurricane there came a flood in Hartford, so you see the hurricane did a lot of damage all over the State of Connecticut.

Anna Misiak, Grade 6, Center School

Hurricane Events

On Wednesday, September 21, 1938, we had a hurricane. It was terrible. Trees were felled, tobacco barns were blown down, and cable wires were destroyed by trees. People from East Granby and other towns had no lights at all. But worse than all that, the hurricane damaged the Center School. The two sides of our school were blown in. We had to go to the Falls School for about two months until our school was repaired. Now that the Center School is repaired, we are happy to be back. We also hope we never have to leave our own school again as the result of another hurricane.

Frances Remik, Grade 8, Center School

Round and Round

The wind went round
The school blew down
The roofs went round
The trees fell down
The house fell down
The trees went round
The barns fell down
The wind went round
And round and round
and round.

Vittie Peterson, Grade 6, Center School

The Storm at School

A limb fell down in the schoolyard.
Our radio wire blew down.
Some water was on our floor.
Some shingles blew off the roof.

First Grade Boys, South School

The Hurricane

There was a hurricane
That brought the wind and rain,
The wires were also blowing
And the trees were quickly going.

Virginia Krogh, Grade 4, South School

The Hurricane

A storm came Wednesday.
The wind blew our maple tree down.
Our apple tree fell down.
We have no lights.
We saw the river. It is high.

Phyllis and Cynthia Cowles, Grade 2
South School

The Hurricane

Wednesday there was a hurricane
Bringing a great deal of wind and rain,
It knocked down all the trees around
And scared the people who were in town.

Georgie Jones, Grade 4, South School

The Hurricane

Wednesday I was lying in bed with a fever. All at once early in the afternoon, I heard the wind pounding against the window. Then it began to rain very hard. The tree in the back yard went down with a terrific thud. It was a beautiful weeping willow. I hopped out of bed and put on some warm clothes. I tried to open the door but the wind was so tremendous it was impossible to get out. I finally opened the door. It was my first hurricane experience, and I hope the last I will have. The trees were down all around. I was scolded when my aunt came home and found me outside.

John Douglas, Grade 7, South School

The Storm

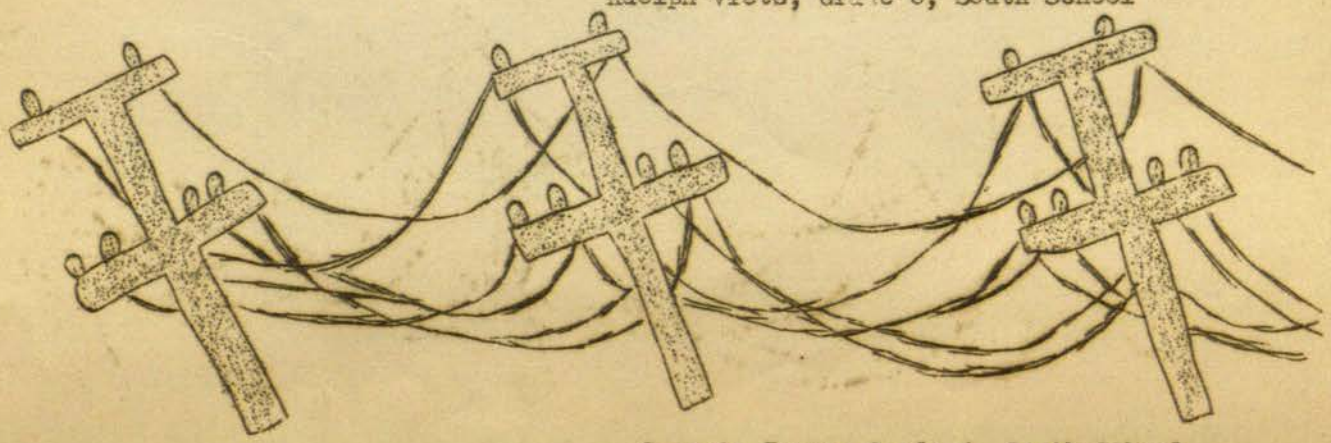
After the storm my brother and I started for Hartford. First we tried to go through Bloomfield but there were six trees down in the road. Then we tried to go by the Simsbury road, but that was blocked. We turned back and went through Windsor. We finally reached Hartford and went to my brothers. He lives in the flood district. We left the car near Colts Park and walked through the park. There were a great many trees down. We were very glad to see my brother. The water had not reached his house. A man who lives near my brother had a car smashed by a fallen tree.

Russell Peterson, Grade 7, South School

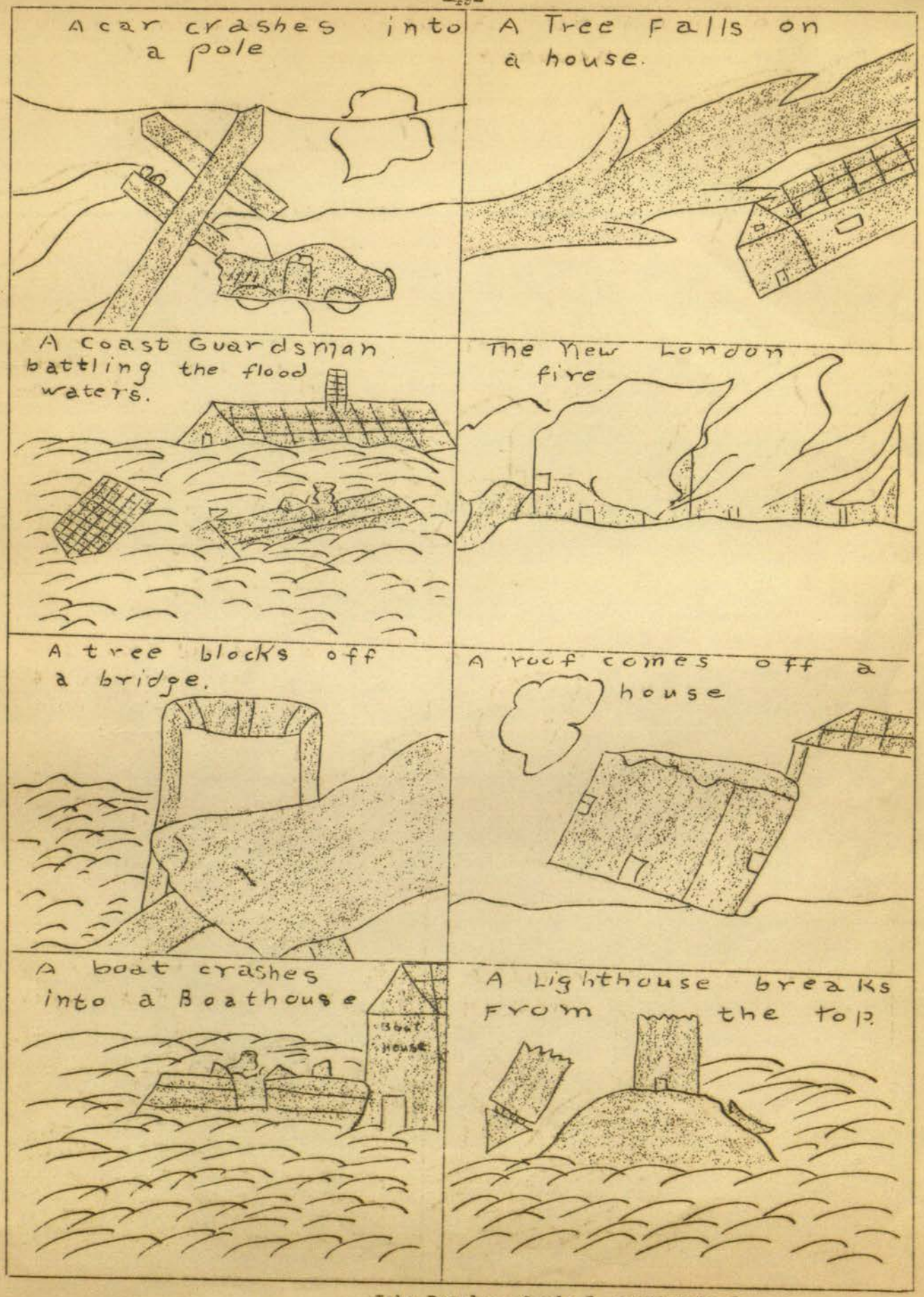
The Hurricane

We had a hurricane. It blew over tobacco sheds. It blew all our trees down. Two of them came down through the back room and the kitchen. It smashed the roof and floor. We couldn't get anything out of the rooms until the limbs had been cleared away.

Adolph Viets, Grade 6, South School



Georgie Jones, Grade 4, South School



John Douglas, Grade 7, South School

The Wind and the Maple

There was a little maple tree,
A-standing up so gay,
When past her went a great big wind,
One early autumn day.

I sat up in my room and watched,
Outside my little window,
And wondered how the maple tree,
Could stand so hard a blow.

I watched some other bigger trees,
Fall down and hit the ground,
But the friendly little maple tree,
Swayed and swung without a sound.

It made my heart beat faster,
To see the others fall,
But the bold little maple tree,
Stood up so straight and tall.

The wind whistled through its branches,
And the maple seemed to say,
"Why should I care if the wind blows,
For right here I'm going to stay".

Marion Urwick, Grade 6
Falls School

The Hurricane

In the storm we saw horses in a barn. The hurricane took the side off the barn. The family that takes care of the horses sleep with the horses in the barn. The horses did not get hurt.

Clarence Talbot, Grade 4
Falls School

The Hurricane

Last night I went down the road. I saw a tree across the road. Then I went on and I saw a choke cherry tree on the ground. Later I went home.

James Castle, Grade 4
Falls School

A Bad Hurricane

The hurricane was so very bad,
That when it came we were so sad,
I was afraid of it, you see,
I thought it was the end of me.

The wind did blow so hard, you know
I thought for sure our house would go,
The rain came down in such a pour
The wind blew hard and made a roar.

Martha Powers, Grade 7
Falls School

Wicked Wind and Water

Oh wicked wind, how hard you blow
You make us feel so very low
Pulling up the trees as you go
Leaving them lying in a row.

The rushing water hurrying down
Makes so many people frown
You never stop, you wicked thing
To think of the damage that you bring.

Anna Walton, Grade 8
Falls School

The Hurricane

Last night there was a terrible hurricane. I saw a tree crash to the ground. It came out with the roots and all. It was a very large tree.

Ida Lemire, Grade 4
Falls School

A Hurricane

Last night two trees fell down in the yard next door to us. The water was up to their driveway. My father had to get a canoe to get some people out of a house. The house was full of water.

Beverly Urwick, Grade 3
Falls School

What the Hurricane Did

Wednesday, September 21, 1938 we had a hurricane. It blew down trees, barns, houses, and telephone poles. The wind blew sixty-seven miles an hour. It lasted for about two hours. It blew down trees across the road. It blew down barns that were full of tobacco and started some of the barns on fire. No trees or limbs blew down by our house. The wind blew out one end and part of the other on the Center School of East Granby. It also blew down the chimney on the church of East Granby.

Russell Wheeler, Grade 8, Falls School

Lots of Excitement

I had to stay home from school because of the flood. Thursday, September 22, the water was over the road. Thursday the radio said that from four to six o'clock it would be the highest. It was over the white poles then. The Connecticut River was twenty-nine feet high. The water went over the road at Muddy Brook. The water was very swift. Saturday afternoon all of it was off the road.

Martha Powers, Grade 7, Falls School

The Damage of the Hurricane

The twenty-first of September 1938 we had a hurricane. The damage was great in some places. The wind that blew during the hurricane was fierce. It blew two telephone poles down near our house. It also blew down two big trees and pulled up their roots. It uprooted our apple tree because it was on the side of a hill and because the rain water washed the dirt away from the roots of the tree. There were apples on the tree.

Florence Lipinski, Grade 6, Falls School

A Big Wind

September 21, 1938 there was a flood and about four o'clock a big wind began to blow. It turned into a hurricane. The tobacco barn across the road from my house began to shake. The man who was firing the shed ran out and moved his car. Then he went back and put dirt on the fires. As soon as he got out, it fell down. The next day they went over and took the tobacco out.

Mildred Holcomb, Grade 7, Falls School

An Exciting Adventure

On September 21, 1938 there was a hurricane. It had been raining a lot so we had a flood too. It happened after school. On the way home it was raining and then the wind began to blow. Mary, Alberta, and I had to hold on tight to our umbrellas so the wind would not blow them inside out. Bobby had to help Beverly with hers. Granbrook Park was flooded. It did not reach our cottage. The night after the hurricane we could hear someone screaming in another cottage quite a distance from ours. My father and another man borrowed a canoe from Howard's grandmother and got them out. They had almost froze to death. The hurricane did a great deal of damage.

Marion Urwick, Grade 6, Falls School

A Seventy Mile Wind is a Hurricane Any Day

September 21, 1938 we had a hurricane. My mother did not have anything damaged. My grandmother's two big tubs fell down but were not bent or broken. My mother said that if my grandmother's chickens did not go under the house the wind would have carried them away. I was afraid my little dog, Dan, was cold so I brought him into the house. My mother was afraid to go home from my grandmother's house because the wind was so strong. It was a seventy mile an hour wind, so I heard over the radio in my grandfather's car.

Alberta Southworth, Grade 6, Falls School

Damage Done

A man came down and said that one of my father's tobacco sheds had blown down. It was in Granby. The door was open and the wind went through the shed. There was a man in the shed. The shed fell on the man, and they could not get in to him until half past seven. My father said he was not hurt.

Mary Kelly, Grade 5, Falls School

The Hurricane

Wednesday we had a hurricane. It blew down trees and barns. It blew down two trees in our yard. They were big trees and we thought they would not fall down but they did. They both blew down at the same time. We had a big box on the porch and when we found it, it was way out in the field. We could not find it for a long time. My mother's tub blew away into the field too.

Thomas Doody, Grade 6, Falls School

The Flood

September 21, 1938 we had a flood. The water came up to the top of my grandmother's bank and went into the cellar. In all the floods we have had, the water never came up to the top of the bank before. My grandmother had three boats in the water and they were all upside down. One side of one boat came off. The water was almost up to the bridge. A lot of big trucks had to go over the bridge and the people said that the bridge might wash away.

Howard Aldrich, Grade 6, Falls School

The Tail End of a Hurricane

On September 21, 1938 we had a hurricane and a flood. I was looking out of a window and all of a sudden a barn went down in one second. It went down so fast that I thought it was very funny. My mother said that our apple tree went down and as she said it the next door neighbors' apple tree and grapevine went down. In back of our house another apple tree went down. In the pasture the water was quite high. It was higher than last year and the year before that when we had the big flood. In front of our house a telephone pole almost went down and quite a few other poles above our house almost went down too.

Helen Pease, Grade 8, Falls School

A Narrow Escape

Wednesday afternoon when we had our big wind storm, my mother and I were sitting in the parlor talking. All of a sudden we heard a crash. We looked out of the window and we saw the big tree in back of our house pulled up out of the ground. We went down to the lady's downstairs and were talking when another tree across the road blew down. Mrs. Brown forgot all about her clothes being outside, so my mother went out after them. She was taking down a sheet when a limb missed her head about three inches. When she was going into the house, another limb fell down. It was lucky for my mother that a tree didn't fall on her.

Anna Walton, Grade 8, Falls School

The Wind Storm

On September 21, 1938 there was a big wind storm. It started right after we came from school. There was a lot of things blown down. It blew both of our silos down. We had a hard job taking them apart. The boards were all twisted, and it took us all day to pile the boards in a neat pile.

Fred Bazyk, Grade 8, Falls School

TOWN OF GRANBY

The Hurricane

My mother felt sorry for the people who had trees on their homes. The people who were in the flood also suffered. The top of our best tree was blown down. James Kelly's crab apple tree fell down. The little bridge almost went out. The Green's maple tree fell down and ripped wires. This left us without lights and telephones.

Jimmy Holcomb, Grade 3, Bushy Hill School

The Hurricane

Wednesday, the day of the hurricane, some people I know were sitting in the front part of their house. All of a sudden the roof blew off the house across the road. It hit their house and cracked it right down the middle. They were going to go out to the barn until the hurricane was over because it was newer than the house. Just as they were about to go, the barn caved in. Then the trees began to fall. They were so afraid that they didn't know what to do. One of them suggested that they go to the milking room because it was all built with cement. They stayed there all huddled up together, until the storm was over. When it was over, there wasn't a tree standing, the new barn was down, the house had a crack all through it, and the chimney was down. There was so much to do that they didn't know where to start.

Kathleen Laughlin, Grade 7, Bushy Hill School

The Hurricane

Wednesday, September twenty-first, about four o'clock the hurricane started. When the wind was blowing, the pine trees started to fall one after another. Charles and I were watching them fall. We watched them for about an hour. At least one hundred trees fell down. About half an hour later, Charles and I came out again to watch the trees fall. While we were watching them fall, we thought that one of the trees was going to fall on us. We didn't move from where we were standing because the wind started to blow the other way. We watched that same tree for about five minutes and it fell on top of the house. The tree broke two windows and caved in the roof. The hurricane did much damage to the trees around our house, however, we were very lucky that nothing happened to us.

Edward Kniedziejko, Grade 8, Bushy Hill School

The Hurricane

When we got off the bus Wednesday after school, Ruth and I were going under a big oak tree. We heard a loud noise. A branch broke off and began to fall. It got caught in between some branches. It began to get windy and started to rain. About an hour or two later, the wind was very strong. It began to break branches off the trees. Later, a few cars were coming on the road. They stopped and asked if there was any other route to take, because they couldn't get by the large trees that had fallen across the roads. The traffic was held up in front of our house both ways for about fifteen or twenty minutes. Then someone cleared the trees in one place for the cars to go through. While the wind was blowing hard, my mother kept telling us of the damage that the wind would do. A few days later when we got the papers, it had many pictures of the damage that the flood and wind had done.

Ann Mazuk, Grade 8, Bushy Hill School

The following material is by the pupils of the Floydville School, Granby.

The Pine Trees

Alda, Vincent, Pauline and I were going to my grandmother's house. Three pine trees fell down. One of the pine trees fell on the milk house. The milk house is off the foundation. The corner of the milk house is broken. Lillian Yiznitsky, Gr.4

The Hurricane

The hurricane blew away trees. The hurricane blew cars off the roads. The hurricane blew garages away, too. The hurricane blew the roofs off. The hurricane blew windows in, too. Robert Babcock, Grade 3

The Trees

In the school woods the trees are bent. Some are broken or pulled up by the roots. Many trees are broken. We must not go underneath the broken trees. They may fall. Houses were flooded. Many people had to leave their homes.

Bertha Sabeskis, Grade 5

The Hurricane

When the storm started my father and I were in Hartford on Windsor Street. I was sitting in the car. The windows were all shut. All of a sudden I looked out of the windshield and saw a big tree in front of the car. My father ran out of the building and started the car. Just as we got turned around the tree fell right where the car had been! Then we started up a street. There were about six trees in the road, so we tried to go where there weren't so many trees. We got on the big main road on top of the hill. We were riding along and going alright when all of a sudden part of a tree crashed in front of us! A cop said to come ahead. My father made believe he didn't hear the cop because he was afraid the rest of the tree might give away. He didn't go ahead. All of a sudden a big tree came crashing down. It hit the fender and smashed the thing that shows where your fender is at night. Was I scared! Frank Laughlin, Grade 5

The Flood

I know a man. His name is Christie Rossetti. He has a workshop. He fixes radios. The water came up to his shop, house, and store. He has two brand new car radios, and two other people's radios, too. He has two brand new radio testers. He bought them two weeks before the flood. He paid eighty dollars for them. He has six dollars worth of papers, some radio tools, and some other things, too. They all got wet. Paul Mazuk, Grade 5

The Cows

Wednesday I went to Hartford. I saw a dam break. It flooded a house and some cows in a barn. The cows were frightened. They went into the water and were drowned.

Helen Paretti, Grade 5

The Hurricane

From way out in the ocean,
From way out in the sea,
A very big fella came to see me
Of course it was a hurricane.

With lots of wind and rain,
Came a big hurricane,
The wind knocked down the trees
And made a terrible breeze.

Bertha Sabeskis, Grade 5

The Hurricane

The hurricane goes so fast,
It goes like lightning
But you'd know it went past
And you'd be frightened.

Big trees blew down
Everywhere,
In cities and towns
And here and there.

Frank Laughlin, Grade 5

Pumping Gas

We had no electricity for three days. We had candles and lanterns to see by. Nobody except my father had a hand pump. My father sold much gas. His driveway was full of cars. The other gas stations finally got some bicycles. They took the back tires off and hitched them to the pumps and pushed the pedals. Then the gas came up. Paul Mazuk, Grade 5

(Floydville School continued)

The Dam

I went to see a dam. The water was coming over the dam very fast. A big log came over the dam. The water threw the log about ten feet into the air.

Dan Yiznitsky, Grade 6

The Hurricane

Pauline and I were playing in one of our rooms. Pauline said she did not want to play anymore, so I went upstairs. I looked out of the window. I saw that the big oak tree was down. I called Pauline, Ruth, and my mother to look at it. That was the tree Dan hid in when we played hide and seek.

I was walking with Casmir. We saw two nut trees pulled up by the roots. Then we saw many nut trees that were not pulled up by the roots. I said, "I am going for nuts today". I always carry a bag with me so that if I see nuts I can get them. Casmir and I filled up the bag with nuts. I said, "The wind storm helped us to get many nuts".

Lillian and I were playing checkers. The lights went out. Then they came on. Later on they went off. They did not come on again. Joe, my mother, and I were looking for some candles. We found five candles. We lit them and they lighted up the whole room.

Vincent Yiznitsky, Grade 6

The Hurricane

Wednesday the wind blew more than one hundred trees down in Floydville. Some trees fell on the boarding house. Some boys went down to the red bridge. The bridge was flooded with water. The water was a yard deep. It didn't do any damage in Granby down at the red bridge.

Casimir Hniedziejko, Grade 6

The Bridge

We went around Granby to see the flood. We saw that the water was up as far as the red iron bridge in Floydville. When we were coming back, the water was as far as Schmidt's driveway. You could only see the top of the bridge.

Alfonso Gerbutovich, Grade 6

The Hurricane

The hurricane came with the wind,
And the wind came with a bang,
The flashes came with the smashes,
The water came with splashes.

Dan Yiznitsky, Grade 6

The Hurricane

It was the first day of fall
Now listen to me all
Up came a wind, oh so great
It blew and blew
And we all knew
The damage it would do
To both me and you.

Paul Mazuk, Grade 5

The following material from the Lower West School, Granby was taken from a record book which they made for their classroom library.

When the Hurricane Came to Hartford

People who were downtown shopping didn't realize a hurricane was sweeping over the city until they stepped outside the stores. Then what a change. Large panes of plate glass crashed and the pieces of glass would go sailing through the air and land breaking in the street many feet away from where they started. Policemen tried to keep people off the streets. It was dangerous to be hurled through the air. Even some people were blown down by the wind. Hundreds of trees were uprooted or broken by the wind. Traffic knots were made which it took hours to untangle. Wires and poles were broken. Telephones wouldn't ring. Lights would not light. Busses couldn't travel. Trains did not leave the station. People could not go home. Poor Hartford! Poor New England too! What the storm did to Hartford it did all over Southern New England and Long Island. Truly war could hardly do more damage.

Kenneth White, Grade 5

We Lost Our Old Apple Tree

A little breeze was blowing when we went home from school. I didn't think it was going to last long, but it kept on. The breeze blew harder. It turned into a gale. The pails and everything that wasn't fastened rattled or banged or "went with the wind". We had an old apple tree on one side of the house and on the other an old pear tree. Mother, Eugene and I were watching both trees to see which one would go down first. What a crash it made! How we boys will miss those apples! The old pear tree was still standing after the storm but not one pear was left on it.

Ernest Evleth, Grade 6

Dad Walked Home

Wednesday night my father started to Hartford after my sister. He didn't get very far before the hurricane broke. Dad had started down the back way. There are many large trees along that road. As the storm grew worse the trees cracked and snapped and swayed and bent. Before long, a tree came smashing, crashing to the earth. Others followed. Poles carrying phone and light wires were broken by the wind's great strength. Finally the car could go no further. Neither could Dad turn it around. He left it there. Bravely facing the storm, Dad walked home.

Burton Messenger, Grade 6

Finding the Size of the Oak

A couple of days after the storm, Mr. Dakin visited school. He asked us about the storm. Outside in our yard he saw an oak tree. It had been uprooted in the storm. Mr. Dakin asked if we knew the diameter of the big tree in our yard. None of us did. Abbott and I had just found out how to find circumference, radius and diameter in arithmetic, so we took a long piece of string which Miss Smith had brought to school. We measured the circumference and found it to be 88 inches. Using the formula $D = \frac{C}{\pi}$ we learned that 28 inches was the diameter. By pacing its length one morning, I found it was about 52 feet tall. It will take a long time for another oak to grow in our "old neighbor's" place.

Penelope Rosier, Grade 8

Cost of the Storm

Our school was interested in finding out just how much the storm cost each person in Connecticut. We looked up the population of Connecticut in the census of 1930. According to the figures there, we learned there were 1,606,903 people in this state. The Hartford Times newspaper stated that the hurricane did $58,000,000 worth of damage. By long division we determined that the storm cost each person about $36.00.

Kenneth White, Grade 5

The following material is by the pupils of the Upper West School, town of Granby.

One Exciting Week

The week that I was sick it rained every day. One day was especially exciting because we had a hurricane. My mother was looking out of the window and all of a sudden she saw a great big limb fall to the ground. We all looked out of the window and saw several trees on the ground. My father came home from work and told us that the brook was way up high and there were many trees blocking the road.

Elinor Buckland, Grade 7

The Seashore After the Hurricane

The Sunday after the hurricane we went for a ride by the shore. The sights that I saw there I shall never forget. Some cottages were so badly damaged that the people could hardly recognize them. I saw some cottages that were swept off their foundations. One cottage was thrown into the bushes and swamp. Some people lost most of their belongings. It will take a long time before things are cleaned up.

David Hart, Grade 7

The Flood

In Hartford they hired men with trucks to put sand bags around the dam to save Hartford from being flooded. Houses were floating away. The streets were covered with water. Some people had to use rowboats in order to get across. Some people lost their cars and trucks. Many people lost their homes and had to go to the Red Cross.

Francis Barnes, Grade 7

A Fallen Tree

On Wednesday, September 21, 1938 my father was at his store. There was a big poplar tree by the store. All of a sudden he heard a noise. He looked outside and saw the tree fall over. It landed on the porch roof upstairs. It also was resting on an old car. It didn't hurt the car very much. The weight from the tree pushed the back wheels of the car down in the mud. Thursday I went over and watched them take the tree down. They put a rope around a limb. Then a man climbed up the tree and chopped it. Some other men pulled with the rope and the limb came down. Many people were taking pictures.

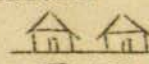
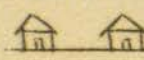
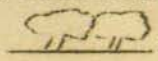
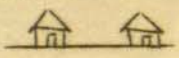
Betty Beman, Grade 7

A Narrow Escape

We had a hurricane. The wind blew hard. My brother was firing in a tobacco barn. He put out the fire because the roof started to cave in. He came out just in time and drove away. We were certainly glad that he did not get hurt.

Hazel Hetu, Grade 5

The Hurricane

The wind blew the roofs off the  . Some of the had to put canvas on their  .  fell down on  . The brooks were high. Some of the s were washed away.

Jean Hart, Grade 5

The Hurricane

Last night there was a hurricane. The wind blew hard and the rain pelted down. Many trees blew down across the roads. People coming from Hartford took three hours to come home. They had to go on the sidewalks, over peoples lawns, through driveways and back yards to get past trees. In some places they drove under branches and trees partly down. Trucks too high to get under trees were jammed along the roads. The electric light wires and telephone poles were in the roads. Cars and trucks had to move the trees and poles to get by. There were men working on the roads. They opened up the roads through Granby because it was the only road to Massachusetts not flooded. Dorothy Humphrey, Grade 7, Cooley School

The Hurricane

It had been raining for the last five days. Finally we had a hurricane. They think it came up the coast of Florida and over here. There were some people on Travelers Tower and they said it was coming. It blew parts of two trees down on the west side of the house. It blew a screen off Grandma's porch. There was so much water on the road that they could not get through with cars. Daddy had to go out in it three times. The lights went out and Mother had to get out a lamp. Daddy couldn't see to milk so he went over to Case's after a lantern. If we had to use lamps all the time I think I would go crazy. Lois Redin, Grade 8, Cooley School

The Hurricane

The wind blew trees down. The corn was down. Our little bridge got washed away. Some cherry trees fell down. Big branches fell down and broke the telephone wires so we couldn't call anyone on the telephone.

Bernard Barrie, Grade 5, Cooley School

The Hurricane

Last night when I was making a cake, the lights went out. They came on again, then they went off and stayed off. Olof went and got our lamps. Five trees blew down in the pasture. One big limb blew across the road a little way past our house. Some parts of the road washed out. The hurricane did a lot of damage.

Alva Stevenson, Grade 8, Cooley School

Hurricane

The wind blew hard. Two trees fell down in our yard. The wind blew our steps down. The big branches fell down. Our ladder fell down too.

Millie Bronda, Grade 3, Cooley School

The Hurricane

Last night at about four o'clock we had a hurricane. The electricity went off and we couldn't use the telephone. The cows didn't come home, so Daddy had to go out after them in the worst part of the storm. Two apple trees up in the lot blew down, and a hemlock tree by the house. The wind took Mr. Bataytes silo half off its foundation. I guess it would have taken ours off if it hadn't been filled. A tree between Mr. Dewey's and Mr. Shenning's was across the road and they had to chop it away to get through with a car. Mother and I went up in the lot and picked up apples. Did the wind blow! The apples were even floating down the brook.

Evelyn Redin, Grade 7, Cooley School

Hurricane

The wind blew our barn down. It blew down many trees and broke off many limbs. Our road is blocked. John Janzyk, Grade 3, Cooley School

Hurricane

The school's electric wires were broken down. A big limb from the tree outside fell on the wires. Many trees were blown over.

Dorothy Stevenson, Grade 2, Cooley School

The following reports of the flood and hurricane are from the Granby Street School, town of Granby.

The Flood

Wednesday it rained hard and blew a lot of trees down. The water was over the road in Floydville. The trees fell on some telephone wires. Some tobacco sheds blew down. My father had to go through Avon and Simsbury to get home because there were so many trees down. There are three bridges in Tarriffville and the water was almost over these bridges. Craig had a tree down at his place.

Robert Cotton, Grade 4

A Flood

We saw the flood in Hartford. We saw the flood in Simsbury too. We went to West Hartford and we couldn't get through so we came home again.

Mary Teale, Grade 2

The Hurricane

Wednesday morning it was raining hard. The last part of the day we had a hurricane. It started about four o'clock in the afternoon and ended about six o'clock at night. It did three million dollars worth of damage in Connecticut. I went up to the store in the car and limbs were falling all over. In the morning we went to Simsbury. Most of the bridges were flooded. In back of the Walker School there are fifty trees down. Down where I live a tree fell on an old lady's house and knocked off half of the bedroom.

Craig Carlson, Grade 4

The Hurricane

A tree fell on my grandmother's house. It fell right on the roof. It didn't do any damage to the house. My grandfather even went out and milked the cows, but my grandmother was afraid the barn would fall on him. My grandfather would milk one cow and then look up at the house. Pretty soon we heard an awful noise. A big tree had fallen down. It was lucky that it fell the other way. The whole tree fell down. My mother and father were out in the hurricane. They were at the movies when all of a sudden the lights went out. The man in the theatre said, "There is no trouble in here but outside there is a bad hurricane". When my mother and father heard this they sneaked out. Glass and bricks were flying every way. When they drove a little way they had to turn another way and chop the road through. Finally they got home. When they did get home my mother said, "Oh mother, I am so glad I am home. I did not know whether the children were safe or not".

Marilyn LeFebvre, Grade 3

Suffield

We went to Suffield Sunday. We saw all the trees and tobacco sheds that were down. The top of the church is blown off. I counted about fifteen tobacco sheds that had fallen over in Suffield. I didn't think anything could happen like that in Connecticut. I knew that they had such things in the south.

Jean Goddard, Grade 5

The Hurricane

The wind blew down three of Mr. Griffin's tobacco barns. The wind blew down one of Mr. Bunnell's tobacco barns. A tree fell down on the road and my father had to chop it so the cars could go by. Some trees fell down on the wires and broke them so that some people couldn't have electricity for about six days. Down by the canal five trees are up by the roots. One tree broke over.

Bertram Dewey, Grade 5

The Flood and Hurricane

After I got home from school, the lights began to flicker. Then they went out. We had six candles. Friday we had an oil stove. We saw a tree go down at Avery's. I thought Teale's tree would go down. It is a catalpa tree. Up in Westfield the golf links were in a foot of mud. We saw the channel that went around the dam in Westfield. We saw people going in the water in Simsbury.

Ernest Pendleton, Grade 5

(Granby Street School continued)

The Hurricane

I had just gotten home from school and the wind began to blow. I had the radio on and the electricity went off at four o'clock. The wind began to blow and it was raining. The trees began to go back and forth and the leaves fell off the trees. The trees, too, were taken right out of the ground. In front of our house we have a big maple tree and we saw the ground come up and some of the roots came out of the ground. Some of the bricks came off of the chimney and fell down to the ground. When the storm was over we put a big board against the tree so it would not fall over. Down in back of our house, the water was up to the bank, and it was over the road and bridge too. After the water went down,the road was all washed out. In Hartford the water was quite high in some places. My brother works for the Electric Light Company and he had to work all night and days too.

Vivian Devnew, Grade 8

The Flood and Hurricane

One of the worst storms that ever occurred in the history of Connecticut happened last Wednesday. We were having a flood at that same time which started the Saturday before. The wind was blowing at approximately seventy-five miles an hour. One tree fell on the other side of the store. The tree brought down wires which made it very dangerous because they were live wires. The man over at the store had to stop the cars so they would not hit the wires or they would be electrocuted. The hurricane lasted from four o'clock in the afternoon until six o'clock in the evening. In Connecticut the death toll and missing has reached one hundred so far. It was not only Connecticut that got the storm but Massachusetts and Rhode Island as well. In Hartford the people were afraid that the South Dike would flood over but the men worked as fast as they could. There were over fifteen hundred workers. When the river reached its crest it was 35.12 feet which is higher than the flood in 1936. Trees caused much damage by falling on houses and cars and several other things. Tobacco barns were blown down with tobacco in them. The farmers' crops were ruined. In Hartford the total damage reached $4,000,000. Around our street there wasn't much damage done except a few trees that fell. Only one hit a house. Many roads were under water. We were without lights for two days, and in the midst of it all, the water went off because they couldn't pump it without electricity.

Henry Cotton, Grade 8

The Powerful Wind

The powerful wind came one day
And took everything in its way,
The great wind had to take
What the people worked to make.

Many great trees fell on highways
And traffic was delayed for many days
The hurricane made a mess of the Sound
By tossing houses and boats around.

Leon Goddard, Grade 8

The Flood

The water will surprise
The way it can rise
Then every man must hike
Down to the dike
To work with all his might
Both day and night.

Roy Burnham, Grade 8

Damage Done

The damage is done
The winds have passed,
But in our hearts
It will forever last.

When the hurricane hit,
It blew down barns,
Trees fell like sticks,
On many farms.

Nature is greater
Than man's hand
Nature's will is the one
That will forever stand.

Irene MacDowall, Grade 8

(Granby Street School continued)

Hurricane

Last Wednesday down our way
We had a hurricane, I'll say!
Tree after tree blew down
It seemed there would be none left around.
Alice Dewey, Grade 6

The Flood and Hurricane

The hurricane struck up at our house. It blew down fifteen trees. About five minutes of four, the first tree went down at our house. I was down at the brook when it went down. It broke off right beside me. It went down into the brook and floated away. David Goddard, Grade 6

The Hurricane

Wednesday, September 21, 1938, we had a hurricane in all parts of Connecticut. There wore trees taken up by the roots all over the towns. We had a big elm tree that was taken up by the roots. Our neighbor had a spruce tree go over on the side of their house. A little while after, the wind changed and straightened it right up. Ruth Phillips, Grade 6

The Hurricane

The hurricane started about 4:00 P.M. It destroyed many things. It is the first hurricane Granby has experienced. Many roads were flooded. A school in East Granby was destroyed. It's roof blew over. Many children did not go to school because the road was flooded and there was no electricity. Many stores gave ice cream away. Some people have their electricity back now. The hurricane lasted until about 6:00 P.M. Then I went out and played. The road where David lives was flooded. Many cars went up by David's house and David told them that the road was flooded.
Alice Dewey, Grade 6

This Year's Flood

This year we all had a terrible flood in Connecticut. It happened on a Wednesday about four o'clock. The houses were floating on big rivers and lakes. You could see the house floating down the water. There was also a large wind storm which blew down trees and knocked down roofs on the houses. We lost seven apple trees on one side of our house and two or three big maple trees that foll right across our swimming place. Now we will have to take them all off before we can go swimming again. We had cows and calves outside when it happened. Mother had to hurry because she was afraid one of the limbs would come down and hurt the cattle. She had no more than gotten them in when a large tree came down. We did not want to lose any of our cattle because we have plenty of milk, cream, and butter.
Leona Paquette, Grade 7

The Hurricane

Wednesday about four o'clock the hurricane started. It blew down trees, barns, and many other things. The trees blew back and forth until they fell to the ground. The wind was going seventy-five miles per hour. Many of the trees fell on houses and on electric light wires and knocked down telephone poles and some chimneys blew off houses. Many tobacco barns blew down. Many people were killed during the hurricane from falling buildings and trees. During the hurricane the Farmington River was going a mile a minute and water was rising inch by inch. Friday I went down to see the falls by the power house. Large sheets of mist were rising from the water it was going so fast. When we left there we went to East Granby. There trees fell on houses and crushed them. Some trees fell on cars. I also saw the East Granby school. Anybody could see inside the school and see desks and everything. Some of the huge trees came up by the roots; others broke off about ten feet high and other trees had not fallen but were leaning against telephone wires and poles. Many huge trees blew down on the Suffield mountain. Grace Boman, Grade 8

The following material is by the pupils of the North Granby School, Town of Granby.

The Hurricane

I saw the hurricane. It was a terrible storm. It rained hard. The water was on the road. The water was in the fields. I could not get to school.

Mary Barnard, Grade 2

The Flood

It is raining. The fields are flooded. The cows went into the fields. They got all wet. Bruce Taylor, Grade 2

Hurricane

The hurricane blew over the trees. The trees fell on the houses. The trees fell on cars. Some of the houses went down the river. Robert L., Grade 3

Hurricane

The hurricane came from the south. Usually it visits Florida. This time it came to us. Connecticut, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New York, and New Hampshire were in its path. Many people have lost their lives and homes. Many have been killed. Others have suffered.

Lucia Sweeton, Grade 3

New London

New London was hit by the hurricane. They had a tidal wave and a fire, too. Half of the city was on fire. The buildings were torn apart. Water was all around them. Sticks were blown around. Lots of people lost their homes and their lives. Many people were injured, too.

Sally Kingsbury, Grade 4

The Hurricane

We had a terrible flood in 1936. In 1938 we had another flood. The water was up high. It was running over into fields. It was raining hard. Along with the flood a hurricane brought damage. It pulled up trees. Many people lost their lives, homes, and clothes.

Ralph B, Grade 4

The Storm

The water ran over our bridge. Daddy drove the tractor over it. It went through the water. We milked our cows with the tractor.

Roger Hayes, Grade 2

The Hurricane

The wind pulled up one tree. It was in our back yard. It fell into the road. It made a big noise. Mary B., Grade 2

Our Brook

Our brook is deep. It is three feet deep. There is one foot of water in the tobacco shed. Some of the water came from a spring. Robert L., Grade 3

The Red Cross

We gave the Red Cross money. We gave them clothes, too. The Red Cross gives them to people who have none. Many people lost their food, clothes, and homes during the hurricane. They had to stay in schoolrooms because their homes were full of water. The water washed some of the houses away. The people were carried away in boats. The Red Cross helps all these people who have suffered.

Lucille S., Grade 3

The Flooded Brook

There is a brook in our pasture that was almost flooded. When I went after the cows I had to jump across the brook because the bridge was all covered with water. Then when I came back I was all wet. Casimir Dombkowski, Grade 4

The Hurricane

We had an awful hurricane on Wednesday afternoon, September 21, 1938. It blew over about twenty trees in our pasture. Some pieces were falling down all the time. The brook across the road from our house was flooded about five feet. It was already up to the road.

Casimir Dombkowski, Grade 4

(North Granby School continued)

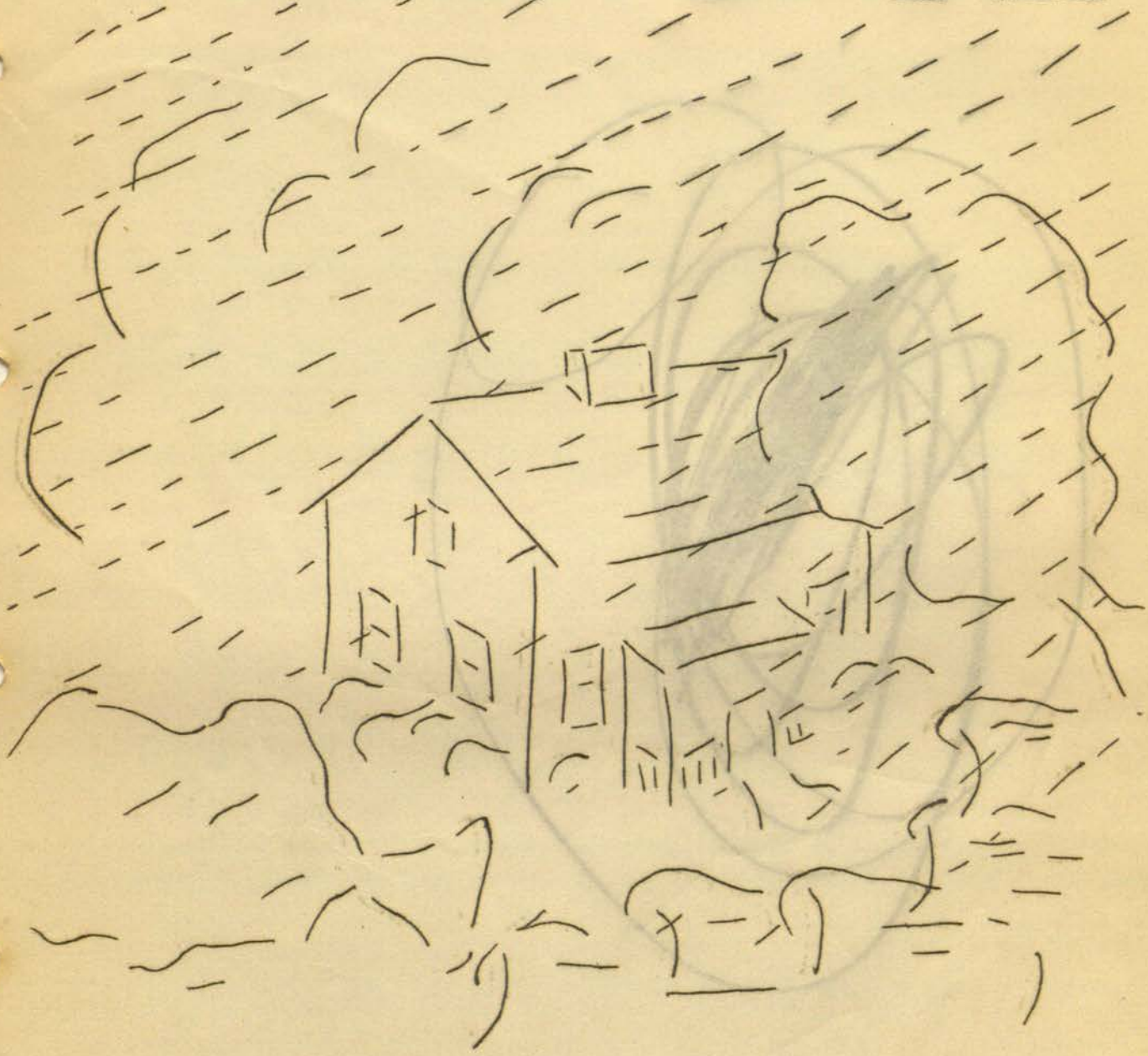
The Hurricane of '38

The rain came down in torrents, Wednesday afternoon;
All of us were wishing that 3:30 would come soon.
When at last closing time came about
We got our wraps and hurried out.
No sooner than we had arrived home
Did strong, sharp winds begin to roam.
They blew the shutters in and out
And threw silo tops and trees about.
The electricity shut off about half past four
We couldn't use telephones anymore.
Those of us who got to school next day
Saw many strange sights on the way.
Mr. Kearns' tobacco shed was on the ground
Trees and debris lay all around.
The brooks had swelled so very high
We could see many objects floating by.
Some trees that went down roots and all
Hit the telephone wires and made them fall.
Priscilla went out to get apples next day
And found them lodged in the dirt half way.
The silo top at Carolyn Dewey's abode
Blew off and landed way out in the road.
Many people who were out of town
Had to stay there, because trees were down.
Some of our oldest residents say
This was the worst storm they've seen this way.

A Group Poem
Grades 5, 6, 7, and 8

TOWN OF ROCKY HILL

THE SCHOOL MESSENGER



HURRICANE AND FLOOD ISSUE

THE SCHOOL MESSENGER

The School Messenger is a paper published by the pupils of the Rocky Hill Center School. Their second issue-volume 3 was devoted to the hurricane and flood. The material contained in this issue is found below.

FIRST GRADE TELLS US ABOUT THE FLOOD AND HURRICANE

The Storm

We had a storm.
We had a flood.
The trees fell down.
The wires fell down.
Some houses were smashed.

Class Story

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The Foundry was flooded.
Smoke was coming out of the windows.
The fire engine was there.
Firemen pumped out the water.

Carrie Goodrich

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The Train Wreck

In the storm a train fell off the track. Two cars were in front of the train. A tree was in front of the train. The train was wrecked. Some people were hurt. Some people were killed. John Boyd

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Our Trees

Eight of our trees blew down. They were apple trees. One of our birch trees blew down, too. They did not hit our house. We just have some little trees now. Ellen Brown

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I saw a tree on a car.
The car was smashed.
No one was in the car.
The steam shovel took the tree away.

Frances Maruffi

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One of Grandpa's trees blew down. My father couldn't get out of the driveway. We sawed the trees. We are going to burn the wood.

Douglas Robbins

GRADE II GIVE THEIR ACCOUNTS OF THE FLOOD AND HURRICANE

Seven windows in our house broke. A tree in our yard blew down. The mail box next door blew down, and the lady went out and picked it up.

Betty Hughes

GRADE II CONTINUES

The Hurricane

Upon one very rainy day
A hurricane came our way
It came to us from off the sea,
And when it came, it didn't please me.
Trees fell over and lay on the ground
And the leaves were blowing all around.
Many poles and wires were gone
We could not turn the electricity on.
After the hurricane came the flood
We hope that now it's gone for good!

Class Poem

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The Hurricane and Flood

On Wednesday, September 21st, after five days of rain a hurricane passed through Connecticut. The wind did much damage. Tin roofs blew off houses, and some houses crashed in. Many garages tipped right over. Trees fell down and blocked all roads. For two days we had no school, and we watched the men cutting up the trees. The flood was very bad everywhere. People had to leave their homes because they were flooded.

Class Story

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The hurricane blew down many trees. The electricity went off. The river was very high, but it is going down. Near my house three pine trees and one maple fell. Clara Kelley

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A hurricane is very bad. My grandmother's chestnut tree was blown down. Our apple tree went, too. We had fun at home sawing wood. Gene Sarra

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We had a flood and Raymond's boat sank. The fire engine had to pump water out of many cellars. The wind blew down one of our buildings. We took pictures of the flood.

Clifford Grover

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Our apple tree fell down. Our well fell down. Our grape arbor fell down. Our cellar is flooded. The blinds came off the windows.

Janet Humphrey

GRADE II CONTINUES

We played house during the four days when we were not in school. Six or seven dams broke and we had a flood. The water covered houses and everything in Glastonbury. Joyce MacDonald

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The water rises and soon people are in the flood. Many people live by the river. I went to look at the river. It was up high but it has gone down now.
Phyllis Ives

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I went down to the river to see the flood. It is very high. One house is flooded. Many houses are flooded over in Glastonbury. The water is very high over in Glastonbury. Alexander Redukor

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We went to Hartford. We saw limbs fall. We saw the garage that burned. Limbs fell on cars. We tried to get to Middletown but we couldn't. Trees had fallen all over the roads.
Mary Walsh

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The hurricane was bad everywhere. So was the flood. We went to Middletown and I saw a broken porch. In Middletown I saw a lot of trees down. There was a little boy in a garage when the hurricane came and the roof of the garage blew off. Windows broke in our house. When the hurricane came, my mother was scared. Did you get scared? Helen Sylvester

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Sixteen trees at my house fell down. There are fifteen trees left. We have a nut tree leaning on the barn. We have a birch tree leaning. Alfred Lowell

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The wind blew and blew. I was home and two of our windows broke. The trees fell down. I had lots of fun helping my father chop wood. Henry Martino

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We had a hurricane. We had a flood. The flood covered the houses. I do not like hurricanes and floods.
Eleanor Dalo

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When the hurricane came that night, I had to go over to my grandmother's. There is a maple tree that fell. The river came higher and higher and there is a house that is in the flood. There are people who have no electricity. The windows in our house broke. My grandfather had to fix the windows.
Helen Sylvester

GRADE III REPORTS THE HURRICANE AND FLOOD

On Wednesday there was a hurricane. It blew lots of trees by our driveway down. It blew down our tree by Senape's house. My father said that they could have some of the wood. My mother says that Clinton Beach is a wreck. The cottage that we stayed in is all gone. It was all in pieces. The paper said that the Baileys were at Clinton Beach during the hurricane. It was so bad that they had to leave. Just after they left, a wave swept over the cottage and took it away. They lost all their things The older Mrs. Clinton was at her cottage too. People had to row her to safety.
Ruth Griswold

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On Wednesday, September 21st a hurricane came. It blew a tree over onto our house. The roof was broken. The chimney was broken, too. My father started to come home. It took him four hours to get home from Hartford. He went through five feet of water. A derrick had to pull a tree off Russell's house. Alden and I could not play anything so we cut limbs off trees. Elmer Griggs was cutting down a tree. The tree started to fall. He pulled his axe out of the tree and ran. The axe slipped and went through his shoe, cutting his foot. Mrs. Fay, a nurse, bandaged his foot for him.
Stewart Sprague

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Our house was flooded so we went upstairs. We heard a big noise so we ran! Downstairs we went because the roof was coming off, but instead it was the porch. Then we went out in the car. Our tree came down. Then the wind stopped. Dolores Cioto

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The Hurricane
First came the rain
Then came the hurricane.
Down came the trees
And up came the seas.
Nancy Kelley

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On Wednesday afternoon, September 21st, the wind was blowing very hard. It blew lots of trees down in front of my yard. In the cow pasture a big nut tree fell down. It left a big hole. Then the rain filled the hole full of water. In front of my house there is a big tree that did not fall down.
Rita Crotoau

GRADE III CONTINUES

Advice to a Hurricane

Hurricane, Hurricane go away,
And please don't come again our way,
You blow things down upon the ground,
With a terrible roaring sound.

You break our windows with a crash,
And down comes tumbling all the glass,
You've done the worst that you could do,
Now please go! Shoo! Shoo!

Claire DiNunzio

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Rain in the Fall

All our town is in a flood
Everywhere you step is mud;
Too much rain will never do
I know you feel the same way, too.

It pitter-patters all around
And you can hear the funny sound;
It comes down very, very fast
And then it slowly stops at last.

Claire DiNunzio

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GRADE IV RELATE THEIR EXPERIENCES IN THE HURRICANE AND FLOOD OF 1938

On September twenty-first, nineteen hundred thirty-eight
A hurricane struck Rocky Hill without a bit of warning.
The river, too, was rising at a very rapid rate
And many people had lost their homes by morning.
On Silas Deane Highway a barn crashed down
And showed the hay so neatly packed
Many trees were up-rooted to show their roots of brown
The tidal wave came up and washed the cottages back.
Many houses were ruined and many people killed
With thoughts of sorrow and destruction our minds are filled.
Oh Hurricane! Why did you ever come.

Class Poem

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The Hurricane

On September 21st, 1938 we had a hurricane. It wrecked cottages and blew down trees. It killed people. I went to the shore Sunday and our cottage was a sight. The little cottage is all gone. In the big cottage there is a bite taken out. Everything in the cottages was covered with sand.

Sally Clinton

GRADE IV CONTINUES

The Hurricane We Had

We did not like the hurricane at all. First we went into the hallway. Then we thought our roof was coming off so we went down cellar and stayed for two hours. We came up and found that part of our chimney had blown off.

Paula French

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Hurricane of 1938

Wednesday after school, the rain was coming down and the wind was blowing. Finally we got home but my mother wasn't there. It was raining in so we tried to get her on the telephone but the wires were already down and we couldn't get her. Then we tried to go out with our raincoats and hats on but the wind was so strong that we couldn't even get out of the door. It started to rain in the door so we locked it. When my mother came home the door was locked and she had to stand outside till we got the door unlocked. Now all the trees are down and the streets look a mess. My father finally came home. He was wet and very anxious to see how we were. We started telling him that the bathroom ceiling was down and the rain was coming in. After the storm was most over we went out to see what had happened. Trees and telegraph poles were down. There were trees on houses. Oh! everything was upset. No one was hurt and I was glad it was over.

Marjorie Okerfelt

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The Terrible Hurricane.

We had a terrible hurricane
The wind blew with all its might and rain
Such a lot of rain and wind
And they were not at play.
They took up trees by the roots
Blew houses far away
I hope we never see again
A storm that brings such pain.

Barbara Ann Rodukor

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It Never Happened Before

There was a bad hurricane on the day of September 21st, 1938. It took down hundreds of trees. It took down a big tree by the side of our house, and the big tree in front of our neighbor's house. There was a big limb that fell down in front of our house. It took down our telephone wire but our telephone worked just the same, because it didn't

GRADE IV CONTINUES

break the wire. Many people came to our house to use it. We have an electric stove and because the power was off, we had to go to Hartford and get a little oil stove. We saw many tin roofs in the road. There was a tree on top of a car. The car was badly smashed. There were many trees on the side of the road with lanterns hanging on them.

Peggy Griswold

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The Hurricane

I was coming out of school when the hurricane started. I was walking up the street when a tree started to fall. I went back down the street. Trees fell and my sister began to cry. A car came along and the driver asked us to get in. We rode home. The next day my mother went to the beach to see if the cottage was alright. When she got there she saw it was alright. There were just three cottages left on the waterfront.

Elinor DeRonne

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Flood and Hurricane

Wednesday afternoon about three O'clock, the wind started to blow. I was in school then. When we got out of school the wind was still blowing and it was raining. When I got home I was very wet. The wind blew eight trees down in our yard. The water came up higher and higher in the river. Many people were flooded out. We had no school for two days. It was all so terrible. Our electricity went off. We did not have any water because we have an electric pump of our own. I hope this will never happen again.

Barbara Ann Reduker

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The Hurricane We Had

We had a very bad hurricane. Many buildings were wrecked in Hartford. The shingles blew off our roof. My father had to put them on again. We had some grapevines but they came down during the storm. Most of the telephone and electric wires were down on Main Street. It looked just like a forest. We had to hurry into the house. I saw a big tree come down. My grandfather had a wheel barrow and it rolled to the other side of the road. It was a terrible hurricane.

Edith Bonnino

GRADE V TELLS HOW THE STORM AFFECTED THEM

The Hurricane

I am the hurricane, fierce and strong
Watch me as I come along,
I'll blow your trees right off the lawn
And keep right on, and on, and on!

I am the hurricane, full of tricks
Watch me throw one of these bricks,
I'll break a window here and there
Or throw a chimney into the air!

I am the hurricane, so beware!
I'll block up traffic everywhere
And what's more I won't even care
So there, so there, so there!

Alden Russell, Beverly Osborne, and Bernice Roberts

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A Breathless Ride

Late Wednesday afternoon, mother and I drove towards the river to see the flood. On our way we noticed branches falling in all directions. In fact, the hurricane caused such destruction that we had to turn around three times before reaching the river. On our way home we saw a huge branch leaning across the road. At this point, my mother did not know whether to step on the gas or jam on the brakes. Quickly she decided to step on the gas. You can imagine our relief when we were safe once more!

Carlos Mason

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The Hurricane

On September 21st, 1938, Rocky Hill experienced a terrible hurricane. Throughout the town great destruction could be seen. The strong winds destroyed some of the trees around my home. The foundation of my doll house also felt the force of this horrible storm. This hurricane caused so much destruction that our schools had to be closed for two days.

Bernice Roberts

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Grade V Children Add to Their Vocabularies

Ever since the hurricane we have found the newspapers very interesting. Many of the words that were used in our daily newspapers we did not understand. We decided to make a list of these words. Then our teacher explained the meaning of each word. We called these words our

GRADE V CONTINUES

hurricane vocabulary. We cannot spell all of them, but we know what they mean. The following list contains our hurricane vocabulary:

approximately	isolated
community	patiently
contributes	popular
destruction	refugees
enumerated	remnant
estimated	resemblance
gigantic	resident
inundated	tremendous
invaded	victims

Joseph Dinunzio and Dwight Levick

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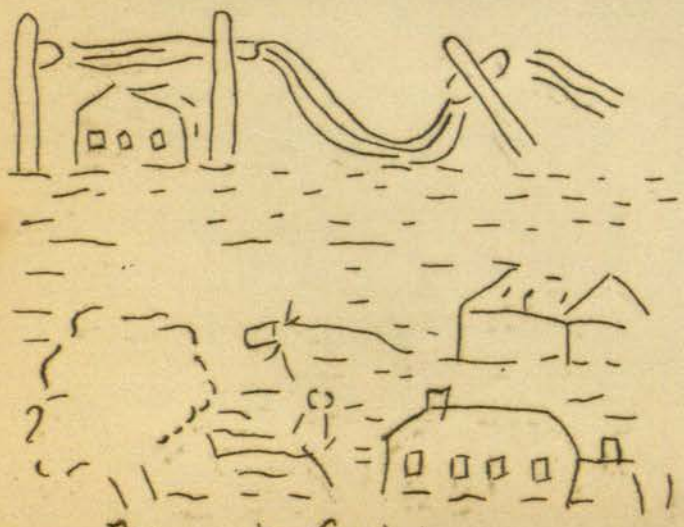
Our Hurricane Spelling

When school began after the hurricane, we had fun thinking of words that had to do with this terrific storm. We found a number of words in our daily newspapers about the flood and the hurricane. Some of these words we thought we should be able to spell. Soon we had twenty words on our spelling list. The words were as follows:

airplane	horror
cluster	huge
Connecticut	hurricane
disaster	property
electricity	radio
escape	rainfall
flood	storm
gale	telephone
Hartford	terror
heavy	vivid

Carlos Mason, Beverly Clark, John Caruso



Drawn by Carl Lassen.

GRADE VI RELATES ITS EXPERIENCES

The Hurricane

The hurricane is not very friendly. The one we had was the worst hurricane we ever had in Connecticut. The wind blew at the windows so hard that it broke one of them into many pieces. We had to put boards over it so the rain could not come in. Rain came in through the roof where the wind had taken many shingles off. The next day we had to put new shingles on the roof.

Helen Dandero

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The Hurricane of 1938

Wednesday afternoon at about three o'clock there was a high wind. By half past three, trees started to fall. When I got home I saw trees and telephone poles fall down. The house began to shake and suddenly a window broke. I grabbed the curtains. Then the water started to come in. We mopped and mopped. There was about five feet of water in our cellar. My brother and I went down and saved the canned goods. The next morning we went outside and looked around. It looked as if we were in a new country. I looked down on the Silas Deane Highway. The water was over the road.

Lawrence Brier

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The Hurricane

During the hurricane the wind was blowing fiercely. When we got out of school, I got into the school bus and rode part way home. When the bus stopped I got off and into Mr. McBride's car. He took me home. When I got out of the car the wind was blowing very boldly. The wind almost blew me down. As soon as I got into the house, trees started falling left and right in front of the house. It is a good thing I got out from under those trees when I did.

Louise Snyder

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My Exciting Adventure During the Storm

It was about four o'clock when a huge tree fell on our house and was caving in the roof. We were so excited we didn't know where to go because trees were falling in every direction. We went into one room and a tree would fall on that side of the house. We were in the living room when a tree fell on the house but slid off the roof onto the porch roof knocking it off. We were all glad when the storm ended.

James Goodrich

GRADE VI CONTINUES

The Hurricane

The hurricane makes an awful sound
It takes the trees and blows them down.
No lights, no poles, no heat, so cold
The wind is terrible when it blows so bold.

Jennie Ronan

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The Hurricane

Wednesday afternoon, September 21st, Connecticut had its biggest hurricane. At first the wind was up high, then it came down and started to blow hard. When we got out of school we were going up Church Street. A big tree fell across the road in front of my father's house. It took all the wires down. Up the road a little way we saw another tree fall and it hit the corner of the house. When we got home we saw about six trees fall and about three pull out of the mud but they settled back. After the storm was over I went out and counted about one hundred trees down on my grandmother's farm.

Raymond Griswold

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In Hartford

In Hartford during the hurricane, a car was parked at the side of the road. It had its motor crushed in by a huge tree that fell on it. My mother and father were there when it happened. The owner of the car had parked it there to get out of the storm and was in a garage when the tree fell. He was glad to have been out of the car when it happened. Everyone was glad he was not hurt.

Stephen Rauert

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We had an exciting experience on the way to my mother's work shop. We were going to get my mother in Wethersfield. We had to go through West Rocky Hill because the water was over the main road. Trees fell in front of us and in back of us. We could not go in any direction. We stopped until the storm let up. Then we all worked to move the tree which blocked our way and went on. It took us two hours to get to the shop.

Helen Dunlero

My Father's Adventure

Would you like to hear my father's adventure getting home? To start my story, my father was just leaving his work. He started to come down Riverview Road. He saw a tree in the road. There was just enough room for him to get through but there were low wires there. Not knowing whether or not they were alive, he decided to take no chances. What do you think he did? He got out and let the car go by itself. Then he ran after it, got in and came home.

Warren Pomroy

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The Hurricane

What if you got out of school and on the way home a fierce wind came up and blew down a tree in front of you? That is what happened to me. Coming home from school a fierce wind blew me all about. One tree just missed falling on me. I could see the trees bend when the wind struck them. Much damage was done that night. Men worked all night clearing away trees from the roads. I hope we won't have a hurricane again.

Benny DeJohn

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How Useful Electricity is on Our Farm

During the hurricane, the electricity went off so that we had to milk the cows by hand because we needed electricity to milk with our milking machines. We have about one-hundred-forty cows. It only takes about one hour to milk with milking machines, but when we had to milk by hand it took a long time. Ordinarily we have seven men who work on the farm, but during the storm several of them went home so we had only three men to help milk the cows. We all worked late in the evening. Our dairy is run by electricity. The first day the electricity went off, we went to Bryant and Chapmans to get bottles washed and filled with milk. The next day we went to Smith's in Wethersfield. The hurricane certainly upset the smooth running of our dairy.

Raymond Griswold

GRADE VII RELATE THEIR EXPERIENCES

Before the Hurricane

Conditions in Rocky Hill today are very bad. The incessant rainfall has caused the river on the east side of the town to rise, making it impossible for men to work at the foundry and Amoco Oil Plant. Lake Avalon in the west part of the town is now in a different spot. The dam broke and most of the water has gone over to the opposite side of the road. The rain also caused the Springbrook Dam to break letting the water rise. Rocky Hill certainly is in a very wet position.

Katherine Caruso

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The Connecticut Foundry basement was covered with water about a foot deep in some spots yesterday. It is still rising very fast. The water flowed so swiftly it flooded the railroad tracks which are on a bank near the shop. Men from the company went out and put grass and dirt about a foot high on the side of the tracks so the water would flow along beside them instead of down into the foundry. The water was so swift that it swept the bank into the road and against the windows in the foundry. It rained harder and harder until the road was under several inches of water. Foundry men shoveled dirt out so their trucks and the Amoco Oil Company trucks could go by. Another part of the bank caved in and a hole nearly ten feet deep washed in the middle of the road. The river by this time was rising six inches an hour.

Annanne Reduker

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More About the Hurricane

On Wednesday, September 21st, the wind started to blow quite hard. We all thought that it was just a heavy wind such as we have at times, but it turned out to be a hurricane. Trees began to fall. Windows came out, cars were crushed by big trees. In my yard a large tree fell and just beyond it another. Children started walking along the fallen trees in my yard and kept on until they had gone through three yards. The day after the hurricane I went out to find a job. I got one and worked two days. I received $2.75 for the two days' work.

Clifton Taylor

Stuck in the Mud

On the evening of September 20th my mother's bridge club met at the home of Mrs. Jones on Chapin Avenue. The street is under construction. When leaving for home my mother backed our car out of the yard and into a gully which had caved in during the evening of hard rain. My aunt brought my mother home. Mrs. Howard, who lives across from Mrs. Jones, stumbled into the gully bruising her knees and damaging her clothing. The following morning the door bell rang at 5:00 o'clock by the electric clock. It was a man asking for the keys to our car so he could pull it out. When my mother came back upstairs I asked her what time it was. She said, "Five o'clock, you go back to sleep". In what seemed about fifteen minutes the alarm rang meaning it was 7:15. As I went downstairs I noticed that the electric clock still said five o'clock. It had stopped when the power was shut off due to the storm. These last four days of rain have cost Connecticut over $75,000.

Florence Buzzo

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During and After the Hurricane

When I got home from school, the wind began to blow and the rain came in great gusts. In a few minutes the wind blew faster and faster, and the rain began to come down harder. Then I saw a part of the tree in front of our house fall across the wires, the wires sputtered and the tree fell to the ground. My mother, my aunt, brother and I came out on the porch and we saw the other part of the tree sway. We ran into the house. Just as we shut the door, the tree fell just missing the house. As soon as we got into the kitchen the apple tree in back of the house fell against the cellar door. A big gust of wind blew all the apple trees in the next lot over. Rain began to come in the windows so I put towels on the sills. That didn't help much. I opened the window and poked the screen out. The hurricane lasted about two and one half hours.

Raymond Reduker

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Rough Weather

After the storm was over, some of my friends and I went out to see what had happened. Trees were down everywhere.

GRADE VII CONTINUED

We went down to the river where we saw boats going down stream with nobody in them. We saw a house from which the roof had been knocked off by a falling tree. Everywhere roads were blocked by fallen trees. The next day the river rose very fast. Main Street and the Silas Deane Highway were flooded so that no cars could go on them. Two boys and I made a raft with a sail and sailed around looking for stray boats that had come down the river. Gordon Humphrey

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Directing Traffic After the Hurricane.

Wednesday night there was a washout and by Thursday the main highways were flooded. I went to work directing traffic. We sent cars through Parsonage Street to Hartford. Thursday afternoon Boy Scouts were called to Wethersfield to do relief work. We moved furniture from houses in the flood zone. Sunday I directed traffic again.

Calvin Harlow

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No Chicken Coop There

Wednesday night going home from school, I slipped and fell into a puddle. I changed my clothes and went out to feed the chickens, but there was no coop where one had been standing in the morning. I went in and told my mother and cousin. They helped me put the chickens in the barn. All the time we were working we thought the barn would blow over. By the time I finished, my clothes were wet and I had to change again. Then my cousin and I played cards.

Richard Osborne

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The Hurricane

In Rocky Hill the hurricane was very furious. On Pratt Street where I live, many trees fell. All roads were blocked. Wires were down and the power had to be shut off. After the hurricane was over, men began to work on the trees. We took some of the wood that was in the streets and sawed it up for the winter. My brother and another boy sawed down a tree that was leaning over in the back yard. Now we have all the wood we shall need for the winter.

Raymond Miller

Fighting the Hurricane

On the day of the hurricane my brother and I were at home alone. Rain was coming in the east windows by the gallons. My brother was posted at one window fighting off the water and I was fighting water in other parts of the house. I had to give my little brother five cents so he would not play trains instead of fighting the storm. Finally the wind got stronger, the roof began to leak, and I had to call for help. Chapin Avenue is being rebuilt and the men were in the trucks, so I called the ones I knew to help me. By this time my little brother was crying. The men came and helped me. When the storm was over my mother came home. We cleaned up the house. William Jackson

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Happenings in a Hurricane

The day of the hurricane my father was in Hartford working at the Traveler's Insurance Company. He told the family that store windows crashed when limbs from trees went through them. Policemen were wearing raincoats but the wind would get tangled in them and blow the men around corners. Mayor Spellacy was in the Traveler's Tower but when the tower began to sway back and forth he came down. The gold ornament is still bent from the hurricane of Septmeber 21st. Gloria Lloyd

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Souvenirs of the Hurricane

Plans have been made for making paper weights from the wood of fallen trees. These will be sold for ten cents or more at department stores, office buildings, and other places. The earnings will be used for the emergency relief work in Hartford. E. Barrie Smith is chairman of a voluntary committee in charge of the project. The wood will be furnished by the street department. Mr. Smith reports that 33 companies have agreed to sell the paper weights. Beverly Hills

GRADE VIII RECOUNT THEIR EXPERIENCES DURING THE HURRICANE

It had been raining for a week, and dams were bursting and roads were being washed out. That was the situation when I went to bed on Tuesday night, September 20th. I got up Wednesday and it was still raining. After eating my breakfast, I put on my raincoat and went to school. It rained until about 11:30, then seemed to clear. Everybody was happy for it looked as if the rainy spell was over. That afternoon most of the children left their raincoats and umbrellas at home. At about two o'clock it started to rain again. A half hour later the wind rose from a breeze to a gale. When it came time to go home from school, it was storming very hard. I was soaked through to the skin by the time I reached home. I changed my clothes and looked out of my bedroom window. To my surprise I saw that the two trees which had stood so proudly in our front yard were lying across the road. I went downstairs to the kitchen to make myself a sandwich. All at once I heard a loud crash upstairs. I rushed up and found a gutter from the roof had blown off and crashed in the window. I ran over and told my grandfather. We got a big canvas and nailed it up so water wouldn't come in. After the hurricane I went out in the yard and looked around. When it got dark I went to my grandfather's house to sleep because my father and mother could not get home from Hartford. The next morning I started for school but met some children who told me there was no school. I went home, changed my clothes and went out to see the destruction wrought by the worst hurricane New England has ever had.

Leonard Bronske

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A Hurricane Attacks Rocky Hill

It had rained for several days. The ground was thoroughly drenched. People were complaining about water in their cellars. The fire trucks were kept busy pumping them out. The river was rising every minute. Dams were breaking and reports over the radio said conditions would make the 1936 flood look small. On Wednesday, the twenty-first of September, the rain was falling quite hard in the morning. By noon it seemed to clear and looked as if people would not suffer any greater trouble. When afternoon came, the sun was shining. Many children left their raincoats and umbrellas at home. About three o'clock it started raining again. The wind was blowing furiously. Leaves were blowing off the trees and branches were falling. We were out at half past three as usual. Everyone should have reached home safely. Some children lingered waiting for the rain to let up. Some of these children were out in the worst of the storm. At four o'clock our electricity went off. The hurricane had really started. Water was coming in under the windows and doors and people were kept busy mopping up. Windows were blown in and it was hard to keep things dry. People were afraid that any minute a tree might fall on their house or the house be blown from its foundation. Everyone watched from their windows and hoped the storm would soon end. Trees were uprooted in all directions and cars were forced to stop because of blocked roads. Washouts occurred in many places and cars were smashed by falling trees. Telephone wires were down so that telephones were out of order. When the storm did finally cease it was too dark to go sight seeing. We had to cook our supper in the fireplace because we have an electric stove and the power had been shut off. We used kerosene lamps. Some of our neighbors came over to see if we had any kerosene to fill their lamps and to see how we survived the hurricane. We went to bed early that night since there was not much we could do without electricity. I awoke in the morning pleased to see the sun shining. Everywhere could be heard merry voices and the ring of axes. Everyone was out helping clear away the results of the storm. As I walked down Elm Street I noticed how many trees had fallen yet none had fallen on houses. I went down to the river that morning. The water was coming up very fast. Many dams had broken and a great number of houses were partly under water. Later in the day we went out in our car to see the sights. Cromwell seemed to have lost more trees than any town. All of the huge trees on the main street were down and many had crashed onto houses. For a long distance every telephone pole was snapped off or blown down. Linemen were kept busy setting new poles and repairing wires. Nearby states sent crews of men to help. At the shore there was great devastation. The tidal wave threw houses a half mile or more back from the

GRADE VIII CONTINUES

shore. Cottages were tipped over and furnishings damaged. After the hurricane the shore roads were closed to all except property owners to prevent theft. If the hurricane had come in the summer many lives would have been lost for the beaches would have been crowded. This was the first hurricane to hit New England in over one hundred twenty-five years. We hope we will never have another.

Priscilla Lowell

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What is a Hurricane?

What is a hurricane? The dictionary defines a hurricane as a whirlwind usually accompanied by rain, hail, and lightning. The hurricanes which come to the United States originate in the West Indies and travel northwest for a distance, then swing to the northeast. Usually the hurricanes strike our coast south of Virginia and pass out to sea without reaching New England. In the beginning the path of the hurricane is from 200-300 miles in width, broadening to about 1000 miles as it travels north but lessening in intensity. Most of these hurricanes come in September.

What causes a hurricane? Since a hurricane is a wind storm it will be necessary to know the cause of wind. Undoubtedly, wind is air in motion. What causes the air to move? Everyone knows that hot air rises. At the equator the land receives the maximum amount of heat from the sun. The air touching this land becomes warmer than that farther north or south. The warm air is pushed up by cold air coming in from the north or south and is gradually cooled as it moves. Air passing over water in any form will pick up a certain amount of it in invisible vapor. Warm air holds more water than cold air. As the clouds carrying water vapor reach colder regions, the vapor condenses in the form of rain or snow. The intense heating of a region of air sometimes causes a violent updraft which begins to whirl because of the rotation of the earth. The whirl becomes more violent, rain falls in torrents, and the storm travels at terrific speed causing great destruction to ships, trees, buildings, or whatever lies in its path. Such a storm is a hurricane.

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Tides and the Tidal Wave

Tide is the daily rising and falling of the waters of the oceans. Tides are produced by the attraction of the sun and moon, but chiefly by that of the moon. They occur twice each day and are about 12 hours 26 minutes apart, rising from a half hour to an hour later each day. The sun and moon both attract the earth, but the moon is so much nearer that it exerts the greater influence. The moon attracts the land and the water with equal force, but the effect upon the land is invisible. The effect upon the water is to draw the water up and form a wave which is almost directly under the moon. Twice a month, at new and at full moon, the attraction of the moon and sun is combined to act upon the tides at the same points, and the highest tides of the month occur. These higher tides are called "spring" tides, while the tides occurring near the first and third quarters are called "neap" (meaning "nipped" or "scanty") tides. In the mouths of some rivers and sometimes in sharply narrowing ocean inlets, the result of the rising of the spring tide is to cause a tidal wave. The tides overcome the current of the river and a single high wave, moving onward like a wall of water, rushes with violence and a roaring noise up the river or inlet.

The Hurricane

During the hurricane, three trees in front of our house fell and one of our windows was broken. My mother grabbed a white cloth to stick in the window to keep out the rain. Our neighbor saw the white cloth and thought we were asking for aid so she came running over to help. Then my Grandfather came over and told us that six of their windows blew through, their silo blew over and one of their shelters was smashed and killed twelve turkeys.

Lorraine Studzinski, Grade 5, West School

The Hurricane

When the hurricane stopped, I went to Hartford to see the damage it had done. I saw a tree which had fallen on a car and somebody stole the motor out of it. Then I saw fifteen trees down on station twenty. I saw two or three roofs off houses. I also saw the flood by Colts. I saw the flood around Colts and the guns were put up on the third floor.

Alvin Drolle, Grade 5, West School

The Wind

Oh the wind blew awful hard,
It howled through the leaves,
It smashed the cars,
And broke down trees.

Robert Flannigan, Gr.4, West School

The Hurricane

The wind was blowing:--
It blew down some trees,
It piled up the leaves,
It raised the river,
And made people shiver.
The roads were blocked
And cars were stopped
While the rain poured down
And flooded the town.

Florence Krol & Ruth Michaelson
Grade 5, West School

The Hurricane

The wind went a-whirling on a windy day,
And there were children out at play,
But they ran in the house as quick as a mouse
But it wasn't very bright for they had no light,
So they hurried to bed when good nights were said.

Lois Klatt, Grade 4, West School

Hurricane

It started from down in the east
And slowed up not in the least
But blew down tall trees
Did this powerful breeze
That started from down in the east.

Leland Gilbert, Gr. 8, West School

A Pre-Hurricane Discussion

On Wednesday, September 21, 1938, we had planned to discuss hurricanes instead of current events because we had heard radio warnings about a hurricane headed for Florida. We thought it to be nothing but a strong wind. We discussed many subjects such as the rising flood and its effects on the river coast factories, and the many kinds of winds such as hurricanes, typhoons, and others. This discussion was long and very interesting. Little did we realize as we talked about hurricanes that a real hurricane was rapidly coming toward us and that within an hour from our discussion we would be in the midst of falling trees, snapping wires and horrible scenes of destruction.

Lorraine Murray, Grade 8, West School

The Hurricane

When the hurricane came:--
It started to rain and rain,
It blew down trees--
And plenty of leaves.
It blew down poles--
And made many holes.
It blew down shacks--
And tore up tracks.

John Socha, Gr. 6, West School

The Wind

When the wind came roaring by,
You should hear the people sigh!
The wind blew trees and houses down,
With such a tearing, crashing sound.
It knotted up the wires tight,
And for a week we had no light.

Rose Allessio, Gr. 6, West School

The Hurricane

When the hurricane came to town,
With a crash and a bang!
It knocked many houses down,
With a crash and a bang!
They fell to the ground
With a crash and a bang!

Marcella Michaelson, Gr.6, West School

The Hurricane

The hurricane was very bad
It was the worst we've ever had.
Trees have fallen down
All around the town.
It badly damaged much of the shore
I certainly hope we have no more.

Ann Plucker, Gr. 6, West School

The Hurricane

Wednesday afternoon when we came out of school, my mother was there with the car. The wind was blowing, and it was raining very hard. When we got home we had to chase all the turkeys into the barn. Then we ran as fast as we could because the wind was pushing us. We could hear the wind blowing so hard that the whole house was shaking. We watched the wind blow. It blew three of our trees down. The roots were on the top of the ground. It was raining very hard, and the rain came in on the window sills. It was bubbling so we had to wipe the water up. Then one of our windows broke and we had to put rags and towels in so the rain wouldn't come into the house.

Irene Studzinski, Grade 4, West School

The Hurricane

I got home just in time. The hurricane started at 3:30 P.M. Before the hurricane, it rained hard. Then it stopped for a little while. Later it rained hard again, and with it came the hurricane. After the hurricane, I went out and went all around and I saw that our mail box had been blown off. We found it down the road past the next house. In the middle of the hurricane, the locust tree was almost uprooted. It almost blew over on the house, but the wind changed and the locust tree blew the other way. Luckily it is still standing.

Donald Shaw, Grade 5, West School

The Hurricane

When we got out of school on Wednesday, it started to rain. Then the wind started to blow harder and harder until it blew down trees, tore roofs off houses, knocked down telephone poles and broke electric light wires. We didn't have lights for two weeks and many still do not have them. It flooded many towns and cities especially Hartford which is near us. It caused many thousands of dollars damage.

John Socha, Grade 6, West School

A Chinaman's Gratitude to the Hurricane
(A Tall Story)

On September 21, 1938 a Chinese laundryman awoke in the morning to find that he had a huge washing to do. The poor man didn't know what to do for he had granted his delivery man a vacation and the man had taken the delivery truck with him. The Chinaman washed his clothes and hung them out on the line to dry, then he sat with his face buried in his hands trying to think of something he could do to save his job. While he was doing so he didn't notice that a strong wind had arisen. Suddenly he looked up to find all the clothes off the line and sailing through the air. The Chinaman was terrified to think of the money he would have to pay if they were ruined. In less than two minutes the wind changed and the Chinaman was surrounded with envelopes the wind had brought. Timidly he opened them. He nearly collapsed for inside was the money for each family's laundry and a note thanking him for his quick service.

Lorraine Murray, Grade 8, West School

A Dog's Version of the Hurricane

The wind was whipping about him fiercely that afternoon as Gyp, the large tawny colored shepherd dog, hurried toward home to his comfortable place by the kitchen stove. Comfortable when that bony housecat wasn't around.

He was still some miles from home and the storm was increasing in fury. It was different from other storms of his career. The rain beat through his heavy coat and streamed off. The wind tore at him as he raced along. In all his four years of life nothing had bothered him so much. It had been raining for several days, but today was the worst of them all.

As he trotted along a sodden pasture, a vicious gust of wind threw him completely off balance and he went sprawling into the mud. He staggered up but could hardly hold his ground for the wind seemed an unconquerable force. The huge dog forced his way along inch by inch. Over beyond was a little strip of woods. Once there he would have shelter and protection from the gale. Nearer and nearer to the woods he made his way. Would he ever reach his goal? Only a few yards more. Finally, after much effort, he dragged himself over the last few feet of ground. After gaining the trees, he sank to the earth completely spent. He did not stay long, however, for suddenly a tree crashed down near him. He leaped up amazed to see the trees swaying dangerously above him. Immediately he decided that this was no place for a dog. He sprang over the fallen tree trunk and was away. When he reached the place where the old brook ran, he drew back in fear. This was not the small stream he once knew. What faced him now could be classed as a raging torrent. He looked for the bridge, but it was gone. He decided to try swimming and leaped into the stream. He struggled across little by little. Finally he climbed up on higher ground and lay panting for a few moments. He jumped up and trotted onward. The gale let up slightly and he raced along the hill with the wind whistling in his ears. Then with a hollow twang, his body struck some tough black wires and he went sprawling. When he got up it was only to find his body entangled in long draping telephone wires. Then he remembered those things! Once a rabbit he had been chasing ran into one of them, writhed for a moment and lay still. His master would not let him go near the dead rabbit. In all haste he tore loose, little realizing that the fallen wires were dead. He was only half a mile from home now, so he cut cross lots through an old apple orchard. From above a branch from a gnarled apple tree fell upon him. He cleared himself from its boughs and redoubled his efforts. The wind slowed down, the sun peeped from behind gray clouds as he bounded over the hill. Five minutes later a flying furry form could be seen leaping the last pasture fence and around the corner of the barn. It came tearing down the back lawn and bounding through the door of the large farmhouse.

But Gyp had no sooner landed than he skidded to an abrupt stop, for right in front of him, barring his way, crouched Dead Pan the kitchen cat. She was snarling and spitting in the deadliest manner. Immediately there began such a fight as people in Madison Square Garden with the highest price seats available would have enjoyed seeing. After the dust settled, Gyp was seen wearily licking himself by the kitchen stove. The folks were making a great fuss over him and the jealous cat was seen retreating to other parts.

With a sigh Gyp got up, strolled to the cat's dish and started to lap up the milk, but a warning growl from Dead Pan, who was in a far corner, made him return and stretch out again in comfort. He thought back over the events of the day and decided that, after all, there is no place like home--if it were only catless.

Leon Shaw, Grade 8, West School

The Hurricane

The hurricane did much damage to the trees in front of the Packard garage in Hartford. Almost all the trees are in the road now. Also one of the chimneys blew off the roof of the garage.

We also had quite a little damage done to our property. We lost quite a few fruit trees, but fortunately we had most of the fruit picked. There was about a quarter of an inch of water on the kitchen floor. My brother Vincent and my mother held the door shut while the rest of us mopped up the water on the floor.

Alan Plucker, Grade 6, West School

Lake Avalon

One day about one o'clock the dam broke at Lake Avalon. As the water went down the falls, it took all the cement with it. It flooded Nielson's lots. The water went over the main road. All the seaweed went against the fence. The water broke a few posts. As the water went down the brook, it carried a summer cottage quite a few feet forward. The cottage stopped moving when it hit a telephone pole. I found a spoon, fork, dish, bottle, two pans, and many clams in the empty lake.

Gloria Christensen, Grade 5, West School

The Hurricane

The hurricane did much damage, and broke many windows. When the trees fell they tore shingles off the houses. It took off many tin roofs. At our house it knocked down five big oak trees and one of our apple trees. All the apples fell onto the ground. The day after the hurricane, Gloria, Jean, Earl, Betty, and I went walking. On the way we saw a river flowing over a road and in the water we saw small whirl pools. When we walked a little further, we saw a cottage that moved two-hundred feet during the storm. The furniture was still in the cottage. We went to visit the Selden School. The hurricane did much damage to the school. While we were there, the janitor was cleaning up water where the windows were broken and the rain had come in.

Barbara Klatt, Grade 6, West School

The Hurricane

The hurricane was very bad; it blew down many trees, broke windows, and tore down barns. It broke five of our windows and blew nineteen of our apple trees down. Our cellar had two feet of water in it. Then Sunday I went for a ride with my father. I saw a tree on top of a house and the windows were broken, the chimney was falling apart, and half of the roof was off.

Florence Krol, Grade 5, West School

Damages of the Hurricane

Rain, rain, rain. Rain had been falling for about four days. Then came Wednesday and the rain stopped. It was a day with a bright sunny morning and a very warm noon. At about 2:30 o'clock, the sky began to get cloudy once more and a light east wind began to blow. There was a queer feeling in the air.

Around three o'clock it began to rain and the wind grew stronger. It kept on until about ten minutes of four, when a hurricane was in full swing, breaking windows and uprooting many of the large maples, elms, and other trees which had stood up bravely against any kind of weather. With the hurricane came down rain with all its glory, moistening the ground to such a great extent that it caused even more trees to fall.

To me it seemed to be just a strong wind, until I saw trees going down and heard windows being broken. Not until then did I realize that this was no ordinary wind but something much greater. The electricity was shut off because many wires were broken by falling trees. Some people were electrocuted because they touched live wires. Water was creeping up on many houses, and cellars were filled with water up to about four feet as was ours. Our well was also flooded. We had quite a time getting the cows in and milking them. They were very much frightened at the sound of the wind, but the milking had to be done. We thought our house would crumple up and fall, because the two cellar windows were both open and the draft was making the house sway.

After the storm we were glad that nothing really serious had happened to us. I think many people were glad when the hurricane stopped at about 5:00 o'clock.

Irene Krol, Grade 8, West School

A State of Confusion

A little while before school let out, winds began to blow. At three o'clock we rode home in pelting rain and increasing winds. After I had walked about half way up the hill, something began pushing me faster and faster. It was the wind. When I reached home, I found it to be in a state of confusion. Things were being pulled off the porch and into the house. My father and brother were bumping each other with chairs, tables and plants. I ran out to the back porch just in time to see the screen start to go. I hung on to it for five minutes until my brother and father came to my aid. In the house we were busier than before for rain was coming in from under the windows on the east side. My brother and I took the upstairs while my father took the downstairs. Towels, rags, and everything in sight was stuffed into the cracks.

When it was finally over, we went outside to investigate the damage done there. About fifteen of our trees were down. My father said some of them could be straightened but a few must be cut up. We had three large maple trees in our front yard. One of these fell taking quite a bit of our lawn with it. Another one was quite shaky.

My mother came home and told us about driving around in Hartford with trees falling on either side and having to drive on side walks. My father had a tree fall almost on his car on the way home.

After all this excitement, we decided to find our cat and see if she was alright. She was purring, curled up on a cushion down in the cellar, with water all around her as if not a thing in the world had happened.

Eleanore Newborg, Grade 8, West School

The Wind of Fury

Connecticut, for the first time in its recent history, has had a hurricane. Trees were uprooted, dams broken, buildings fell, floods rose and death and destruction reigned in some places. Due to falling trees, wires were down and no electricity or telephones could be used. The wind shook the trees and tore off the leaves. Some of the houses even rocked. The hurricane in all its fury struck Rocky Hill at about three-thirty. The wind and rain, however, had been raging for some time before although not quite so violently.

After school let out at three in the afternoon, I started for home. I arrived there in a short time, soaking wet. Once there we had all we could manage to keep the water from seeping in under the windows. Upstairs you could feel the shaking of the house and as the rain drove past I could see the swamp across the street nearly flooded with water. Nearly all our apple trees were down and a locust tree in our front yard was nearly pulled up by the roots. An apple tree upon falling struck the dog house, but luckily the dog was not occupying it at the time. The roof of one of the barns in back started to cave in. The gale was so bad that it took my father two hours to get home from Hartford that night.

The next day I went riding and found some of the roads nearly impassable. Trees were uprooted and in some sections, the roads were flooded. Some people had cameras and were out taking pictures.

Since the hurricane, I have been talking to several people, two of whom have been in hurricanes before. All of them agreed that this was the worst storm they had ever seen. Truly I believe it was the worst storm ever to hit Conn.

Leon Shaw, Grade 8, West School

Farewell, Lake Avalon

On September 19, 1938, it began to rain. It poured steadily for two days and on the third day it let up. My mother walked down to see the falls. About two minutes after she left the dam, it gave way and the water began pouring out. After ten minutes was up, all the water that was previously Lake Avalon was rushing down into the fields. Spectators came from all over town to see the disaster. Men and boys came with pails and bags, filled them up with fish and took them home. A cottage was taken from its foundation by the rushing water. The water carried it away and brought it to a halt some hundred feet away--ruined. A raft that was once floating on the lake was later found down below on the main road. Announcements were made over the radio three times about Lake Avalon. I guess having the dam break was the only way it could get on the radio anyway. This was a very humorous yet sad event. The people who have bought real estate will be out of luck, and the boys and girls who have gone swimming there will no longer be able to. Yet, as you sit and think about it, you realize it is just as it was before, the way the Lord had meant it to be. You see, Lake Avalon was man-made.

Jean Nielsen, Grade 8, West School

Walking From School in a Hurricane

It had been raining for about four days. Then came Wednesday, a wild day of horror. We were seated in school when all at once it started raining again. It was time for school to close. Everyone was excited. While we were walking home the rain seemed to be slanting from the north. The wind began to blow harder and harder. It was a hurricane! I did not want to continue homeward so I stopped at a friend's home. I then tried to telephone my mother so she would not wonder where I was, but the line was dead. A few minutes later a tree in front of the house came down, just skinning the house. I then saw my brother coming up the road in his car. I ran out of the house and stopped him. While we were riding down the road, a very heavy gust of wind sent us over on two wheels. At last we were safe at home. When the rain let up, I went out on the front step, but to my amazement I was blown right off onto the ground. I thought that this was enough, so I went into the house until the storm was entirely over.

Vern Nystrup, Grade 8, West School

Lamp Light

Wednesday when I was coming home from school, it was raining and the wind was starting to blow. It blew harder and harder. I didn't think anything about it. When I got home, a tree had fallen on our neighbor's house. I went into the house and asked my mother what was happening. Was the world coming to an end or what? Then I heard another tree fall by the house and then another one fell. About six o'clock the storm started to let up a little. Then I went to bed. The next morning I looked out of the window and all I saw was fallen trees. There were about fifteen of them. The wires were broken and we didn't have electricity for about two weeks. We had to use lamps, but it was fun to sit in the lamp light.

Albin Schultz, Grade 7, West School

My Trip to Rhode Island

On Tuesday, September 28, 1938, I went to Rhode Island to see the sights that the hurricane and tidal wave had left. When we entered Providence we thought we were going to see some terrible things, but we were disappointed for there weren't any trees down or buildings wrecked. We thought Connecticut got it worse. When we came to the Biltmore Hotel, we could see the water line and was it high! After we stopped at the homes of our friends, we decided to go to see the damage at the water front. We stopped in Providence so we could see where the water came in and all we saw was a pile of wood. Then we went to Warren. The whole town would have been completely gone but for a few streets. On one street we saw a great big oyster boat. It came right across Main Street and ran right into a house. After we left Warren we decided to go to Bristol because that's all waterfront. When we arrived there we didn't know the place. There was absolutely nothing there. There was a little diner where we used to eat which was right by the water, and that was gone. The Heresoff boatyard was moved and many yachts were damaged. We tried to get to Main Street but there was a fifty thousand dollar mahogany yacht right across the street and we had to go around. We also saw the Mont. Hope Bridge. Some people built a new diner and named it The Mont. Hope Diner. All we saw of it was the sign. We heard it took a great deal of money to build it and it must have been a complete loss to the owners. There were a great many washouts in the roads and a great many bridges washed away. As we rode along the shore, we saw many pieces of furniture. We even saw floors of cottages that had been washed away. In some parts of Rhode Island you couldn't get through unless you had a pass. We tried to get to Bay Springs because we heard they got it bad, but we couldn't get through. After that trip, I was very tired and I think I changed my mind about Connecticut getting it worse because we didn't even get it half as bad as poor Rhode Island.

Helen Stanley, Grade 8, West School

How the Hurricane Affected Rocky Hill

Rocky Hill suffered quite a loss as its share of the hurricane. Although it lasted only a few hours, its destruction was immense. In the center of Rocky Hill beside the Congregational Church, a large tree was uprooted taking a large portion of sidewalk with it. The Connecticut Foundry in Rocky Hill was flooded and boilers broken. The railroad tracks were washed away in one section because of rising waters. Trees were torn up and wires were down on Elm Street. The dam at the ice pond broke, weakening the bridge. Lake Avalon's dam broke and sent the waters through it leaving behind no lake. A cottage along with trees and other wreckage was swirled away in the raging torrent. There was no electricity or phone service. School was closed until electric power could be resumed.

Leon Shaw, Grade 8, West School

My Experience with the Hurricane

Wednesday, the day of the hurricane, I was blown about quite a bit. It was after I had gotten off the school bus that I opened up my umbrella because it was raining. I had just gone a short way up Forest Street when suddenly a puff of wind struck my umbrella, so I closed it up fearing it would blow inside out. The rain felt like millions of tiny stones as it hit me. No matter what I held in front of myself, it seemed to come through and hit me. I held my arm and my lunch box in front of me, but that did no good. Nothing helped. I kept opening my umbrella to hold in front of myself, but every time the wind came and blew me backwards and whirled me around. I didn't know what to do. I started to run, keeping my eyes closed so the rain would not hurt them. It was hard to do, not knowing where I was going. Suddenly my hat blow off, and I had to go after it. Just as I turned around to run, one of my rubbers came off, but I kept running until I came to my hat. Then, just as I was about to pick it up, "Plop!" I slipped and fell. I got up and started to run back toward my rubber, hoping every moment it would not blow away. If it did blow, I hoped it would blow toward me. I finally got there, picked it up and started running. The rest of the way home I carried my hat, rubber, umbrella, and lunch box. When I finally arrived home, I was soaked from head to foot, and so tired I could "fall in my tracks". I had to dry out most of my clothes, and about two days later, my coat was still damp. My Aunt Beatrice and Elsie Chambers, her girl friend, were helping my mother stop leaks under the windows. My mother tried to close the window upstairs, and as she pushed on it a puff of wind came along and pushed the window and her back. We were having many troubles. Our trees were bending, breaking, and falling. Everything was going wrong and we didn't know what to do, and on top of all that my father was not home. My mother was very worried. She thought my father had been hit by a fallen tree. "Maybe his motor is stalled", she said later. Many ideas came into her head. She guessed all but the right guess. My father was really staying at my grandfather's home for the night. If he had tried to come down Dividend Road in that dark, he would probably run into a tree or something. He knew he'd get hurt somehow, so he stayed at grandfather's. He came home next morning at about seven or eight o'clock. From the experiences I have had, and from those I have heard, I hope we never, never again have a hurricane.

Kathleen Hyland, Grade 7, West School

When Walking Through the Woods
(Hurricane Tall Story)

On Wednesday after school, I went walking in the woods. A drop of rain fell on my nose. I got under a tree for shelter. Then a strong wind came up. The tree I was near began to fall. I started to run. After running a few miles, I slowed up. The tree was still coming down. I ran another mile. It was coming closer. I ran still another mile and I was puffing very hard. I turned around and my puffing was so strong that it blew the tree right back into its old place.

James Burditt, Grade 8, West School

A Hurricane Limerick

There was a young hurricane so gay,
Who decided he wanted to play,
But when he did sneeze
He knocked over trees
Did this lively young hurricane that day.

Lorraine Murray, Gr. 8, West School

The Raging Elements

The steady patter of the rain
Beat against my window pane
It rained and rained in a steady pour
Until it came right under my door.
Then suddenly a big wind came
Bringing with it yet more rain
It whistled and screamed as on it tore
Piling up damages by the score.

Eleanore Nemberg, West School, Gr. 8

The Rip-Roaring Hurricane

The people used to say,
In nineteen thirty-three
"A hurricane in Connecticut?
Why that could never be!"

But then came nineteen thirty-eight
A day of horror too,
There was an awful hurricane
Which surely was taboo.

Some people thought this just a wind
And just a little rain,
But I'm afraid they were quite wrong
It was a hurricane!

Vera Nystrup, Gr. 8, West School

Hurricane

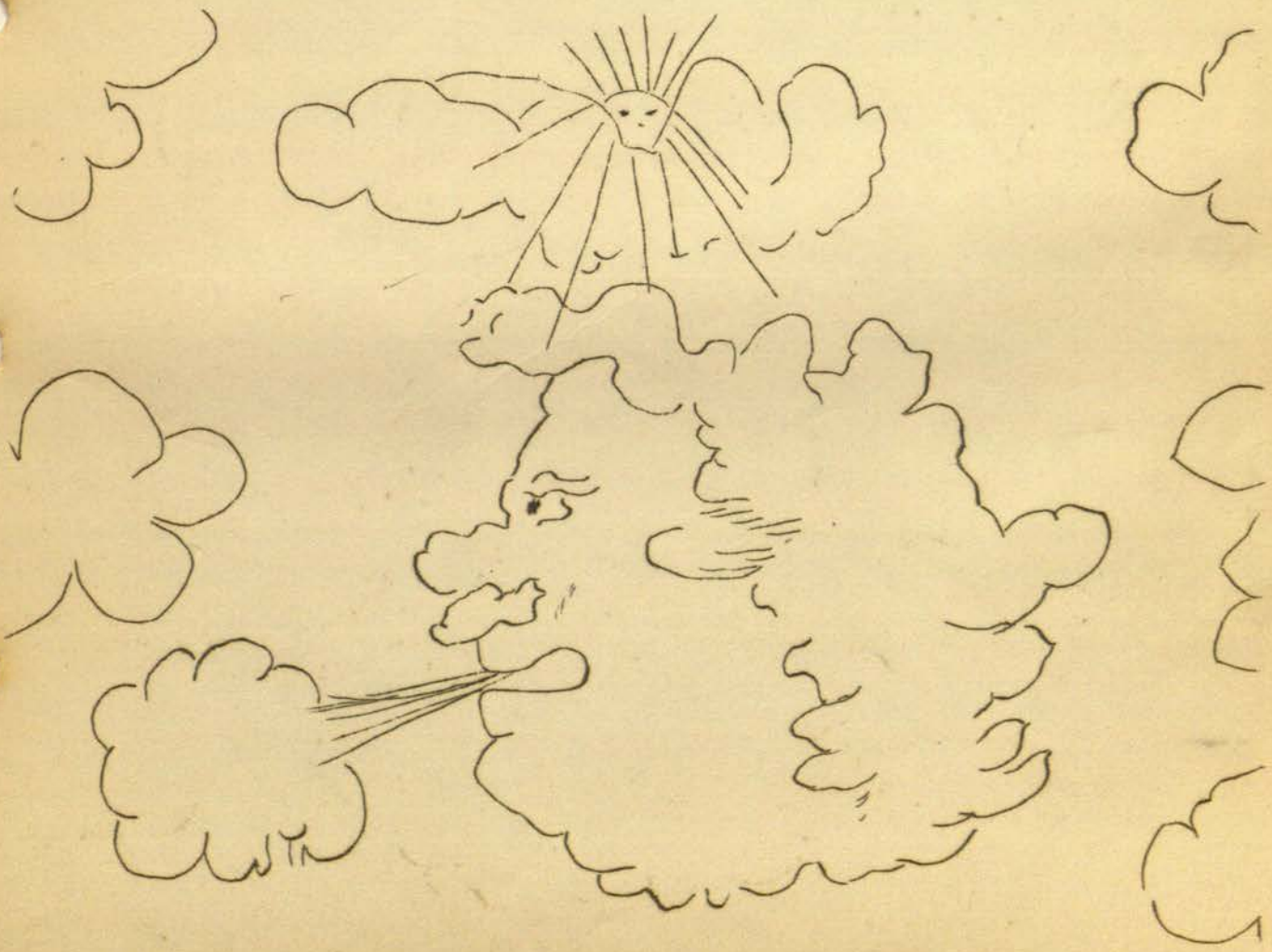
The wind is a giant,
So big and strong
He screams and whistles,
The whole day long.

He pulls up trees
And lets them fall
Then rushes away
He'd never crawl.

He frightens people
Pulls them around
Then throws them away
Where they'll not be found.

I don't like the wind
He doesn't like me
He can be so ugly
I know you'll agree.

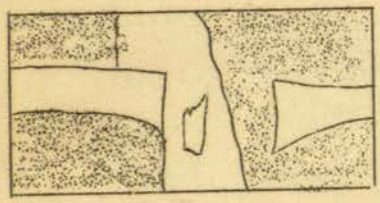
Kathleen Hyland, Gr.7, West Schoo



The Big Blow Off - Leon Shaw, Grade 8, West School

The Hurricane and Lake Avalon

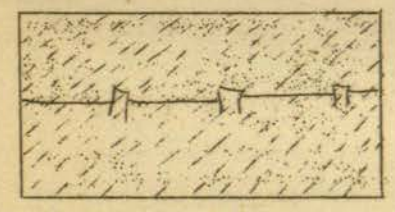
This is Lake Avalon before the hurricane.



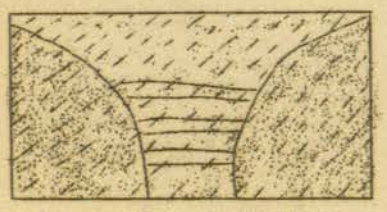
This is Lake Avalon now.

It rained for four days.

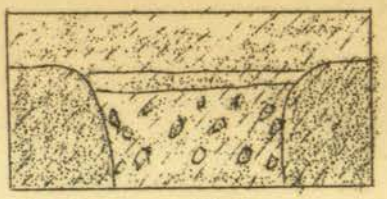
The wind blew up from the north.



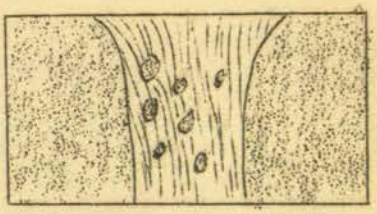
The brooks overflowed.



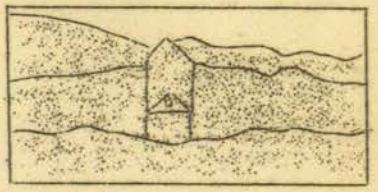
The dam could not hold the water.



The dam crumbled.

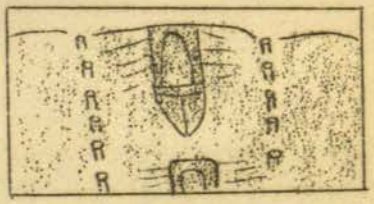


The water washed the banks away.

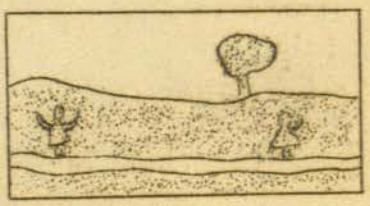


The water carried a cottage 100 yards into the road.

Hundreds of fish were found.



Cars splashed across roads.



It is only a brook now.

"The Hurricane and Lake Avalon" is an original book made by pupils in grades one, two, and three of the West School in Rocky Hill. The above are copies of the illustrations which they made in the book. The original drawings were much larger.

About the Hurricane

Wednesday afternoon, the wind began to blow and it began to rain. The old apple tree in front of our house began to blow back and forward. My mother and sister were watching it. June called Paul and me to come downstairs to watch the tree. Paul and I came down. We watched the tree for a long time. Pretty soon my father came home. He got in just in time. The storm was just about beginning. We told daddy that the tree was going down. My father said he did not care. Pretty soon a hard wind came and we thought the tree was going down but it didn't. Hard winds came and went, but still it did not go. Then finally a hard, hard wind came and it went over. Before the apple tree went down, a tree out in back went down. The wind blew some of the shingles off the house and garage. It broke the window upstairs in the hall. Before supper my father had to get something for supper. He went down as far as Smith's. There was a big tree across the road and my father could not get to that store, so he went to the center.

Ruth Stewart, Grade 4, South School

What I Saw After the Hurricane

The day after the flood, my father took our family for a ride to Hartford to see my grandfather. My father got his tools out of his shop. The street my father's shop was on was flooded up to the steps of the buildings. We saw trees that had pulled up some of the sidewalk when they fell. We saw a couple of houses that had trees leaning on them but the houses were not hurt. One house had some windows broken.

Jean Hyland, Grade 3, South School

The Hurricane

Last night was a terrible night. The wind blew down our pig pen. One of our ducks had its neck hurt by a branch that blew down. The wind blew down four of our best trees. My grandma was surprised to see the trees fall. My mother was worried because the wind blew so hard. The storm lasted for two hours.

Evelyn Murray, Grade 4, South School

The Hurricane

Wednesday we had a terrible storm. It was a real hurricane. It blew down chimneys, trees, and telephone poles. It ripped the roofs off of barns and blew chicken coops to pieces.

Barbara Furman, Grade 2, South School

A Hurricane

Last night we had a hurricane. It was terrible. My mother said it came from Florida. My mother thought my father would never come home. Finally he came home. That night a tree fell on a telephone pole and the electricity went off.

Donald Tennyson, Grade 3, South School

The Hurricane

Yesterday when I got home, there was a terrible hurricane. The rain flooded our cellar about three feet deep. My father was not at home. Suddenly a window broke. We could not fix the window. The rain came in our front room. It went all over the rug and the chairs.

Warren Eastman, Grade 2, South School

The Damage the Flood Did

Five long days it did rain
Which brought a flood again
Covering sev'ral lanes
Destroying many plains.

Large homes floated away
Along with barns they say
Coops too, drifted astray
Even boats didn't stay.

Class Poem, Grade 6, South School

Our Hurricane

We had an unexpected hurricane which did a lot of damage. It blew down the apple tree in our front yard and a big oak tree in the back yard. We had fun watching the apple tree go down. Later my father and I started for the store, but we were blocked both ways so we went as far as we could to the center. My father walked the rest of the way. We got home safely, however.

Paul Stewart, Grade 5, South School

Katharine Stewart, Grade 5, South School

What I Did While I Was Absent

When I was absent on Friday, September 23, 1938, my father took our family for a ride to see what damage the flood and hurricane did. We went up Forest and Main Streets. We saw a blue car that a tree had fallen on. It was a nice car. The roof was crushed. We saw many men removing logs and trees from the middle of the roads. They pushed them to the side of the streets. When we were up to the Center we saw a lot of roads blocked. In front of the church we saw a great big tree that had been blown down. After a while we went into Hartford to see how that city looked. There we saw a lot of tin roofs and glass on the streets and sidewalks. We saw a lot of wires blocking the side streets, so cars could not pass them. We went to see my aunt on South Street. She was glad to see us as she was wondering if our house had blown down. We found South Street was covered with trees. Women and children as well as men were working and cutting wood. After leaving my aunt's we went to visit my grandfather who lives on Park Street. There little damage was done. My grandfather had electricity all during the storm. We knew this because his radio was going. After a while we went to my father's workshop for he wanted his tools because the water was rising and he was afraid his shop would get flooded. His shop is on Arch Street near the river. I saw a few children playing in the dirty water. After a while we started for home because we did not want to be held up by the flood. On the Silas Deane Highway the water was almost up to the road. We got home safely and were glad we got through.

Marilyn Hyland, Grade 5, South School

The Hurricane

On September 21, 1938 in Rocky Hill, a small town in Connecticut where I live, was a hurricane. Dividend Road where I live was covered with trees that had fallen. You could not even go through Dividend Road because it looked like a forest. A limb of a small tree fell down in our yard. The electric lights went out. I went down the cellar and got a lantern. My mother lit it. We felt better then. At nine o'clock my father came home from doing traffic duty. My brother and I went to bed after my father came home. In the morning we got up and ate breakfast. My father took my mother, brother and I to see the sights. He said, "We may never see a hurricane again". After seeing the sights, I hope we never will.

Harry Stickles, Grade 6, South School

What I Did When I Was Absent

On Friday I was absent from school because I didn't think there was any school. I spent part of my time at Harry's house. We went down to see the Hartford Rayon plant. The water was flooding the mill. There were many people there. I met Norman down there. Soon Bobby arrived. We threw stones in the water until I broke a window. My father saw me and sent me home. Then I played in the tree in my yard most of the day. I had lots of fun until I got tired. I went down to the mill again. The water was still coming up very slowly. It was getting dark so I decided to go home. My father did not come home that night because he had to work. We had to go to bed by the candlelight. When I went to bed, I dreamed of the storm.

Frank Carlson, Grade 6, South School

Our Wind Storm

One day in September it began to rain. It rained for four or five days. The wind blew harder every day. Finally a day came when it rained very hard indeed and the wind blew terribly hard. It blew everything over. Roofs and sheds and hen coops were blown away. Having so much rain made the rivers and lakes overflow. Roads were washed away. Bridges, houses and barns were washed away, too. The hurricane caused much disaster to people and their property.

June Stewart, Grade 5, South School

THE HURRICANE

AND FLOOD

OF 1938

THE HURRICANE

AND FLOOD

OF 1938