Terrific Wind Brings Fresh Dust Assault

Mercury Plunges 35 Degrees and May Hit Freezing Mark Tonight

Storm Causes Damage

Sheds, Trees, and Communication Lines Hit—Sand Merged With Fine Silt

A violent wind storm, knifing from the northwest, swept a dense dust storm through western Kansas last night and did minor damage to communication lines, outbuildings and trees in many sections. The blow was accompanied by a 35 degree drop in temperature.

Striking here shortly after 10 o’clock, the wind littered the streets with limbs, snapped wires and turned over a shed at 1700 East First Street. Telephone poles were blown down between here and Nickerson. The mercury slumped from yesterday’s maximum of 79 to a low of 41.

**More Sand in Air**

Sand and dirt from Reno county farms rasped the air, mingling with the finer dust from western Kansas virtually to obliterate vision. It was the first time soil in this vicinity has been badly blown in weeks, although dust from other sections repeatedly has blackened the sky.

The wind and dust storm extended from Nebraska to Texas, with Denver getting a strong dose before the air currents shifted the grime eastward. Dust still remained in the west this morning, but the blow had subsided.

**Worst at Liberal**

Liberal was stricken with what T.W. Hubbard, a night watchman, described as the worst storm of its kind he has seen in many years. A terrific wall of dust moved in from the north to paralyze traffic in city and country. Some dirt was still blowing this morning.

Norton suffered a high wind late yesterday which damaged the light and communication lines.

Hays was darkened with a dust cloud at 5:45 o’clock yesterday afternoon, which moved on to Garden City a half hour later and then swept eastward to beleaguer central Kansas. The loose soil reached parts of Missouri early this morning.

**Panhandle Hit Hard**

West Texas was hit by one of the worst dust storms of the season. The sun was blotted out in most of Oklahoma, with the wind velocity in some places reaching 65 miles an hour, although the average rate was 35 miles an hour in the Midwest.

Freezing temperatures are predicted for tonight, with possible damage to fruit now blossoming. Apple trees are not yet blooming and may escape injury.

**Source:** The Hutchinson News (Hutchinson, Kansas), March 27, 1935, page 1