



# St. Lawrence Wrestlers View Flood Ravages on Recent Trip

The following account of the recent flood was given to a HILL NEWS reporter yesterday by a member of the group which represented St. Lawrence at Lexington, Virginia, last week:

"Traveling south to participate in the Intercollegiate Wrestling Tournament, we first noted the ravages of the flood upon our entrance into the city of Binghamton. Only two roads and one bridge afforded entrance to the city; and men were conspicuous piling sand bags along the river banks to check the swollen waters from further encroaching upon the city proper.

"Wednesday morning when we attempted to leave the city the bridge to the south was deemed unsafe. The waters of the river had risen thirteen feet during the night; the downtown section of Binghamton was entirely flooded and people could be seen in row-boats rescuing property which was rapidly being carried away by swift currents. A policeman suggested an alternate road which proved to be a veritable stream. The water, about six feet deep, ran swiftly over the road, entirely surrounding gasoline stations and carrying small buildings, fences, and sign posts in its wake.

"Traffic was progressing slowly through the flooded streets with the water well up to the running boards of cars. The entire populace seemed bewildered and gave the appearance of not knowing how to cope with such a situation. They stood calmly on a bit of firm ground

and watching their property float away. In the end the only escape from Binghamton proved to be by a back country road which attained the higher levels of the hills.

"The rains and flood waters had loosened the underpiling of many of the bridges along the route from Binghamton to Scranton, Pa. We passed one bridge which was blocked off by state militia, and later we recognized it floating past the road in the swollen stream. It was 6:30 Wednesday morning when we left Binghamton and a half hour later we received word over the radio in the car that departure or entrance into the city was impossible.

Upon approaching Scranton we noticed that the river had grown wider and swifter, and more debris was evident in the turbulent waters. On the right hand side of the road approaching the city proper a flag pole and the top of what appeared to be an airplane hangar were visible. Upon our return trip, after the water had receded, it was evident that it had been an airplane hanger that we had seen. Here the river overflowed its banks and the flying field had been under at least sixteen feet of water.

"On Thursday morning the team journeyed to Washington, D. C., and there saw the Potomac held in check by walls of sand bags twenty feet high. The entire boulevard containing the Japanese cherry trees was flooded as was most of lower Washington.

(Continued on page four)

# **WRESTLERS WITNESS LARGE FLOOD AREAS**

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(Continued from page one)

"As evidence of the seriousness of the flood disaster, it is interesting to note that on the return trip the team passed through Harrisburg, Pa., which was under military control because of typhoid fever contracted through the lack of fresh drinking water.

"After the waters had receded two large houses were encountered in the middle of the highway; porches were conspicuous by their absence from houses; and a church had been moved twenty feet from its original foundation. Large trees were found uprooted in the middle of fields as far as two hundred yards from the rivers, and the various parts of automobiles were seen scattered over the landscape."

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