

RECORD FLOODS IN ARGENTINA:

Nothing approaching inundations on this scale has been seen since the great floods of 1940, in the River Plate valley. In a vast area of 60 miles north and south of Buenos Aires, towns, villages and farmland are under water. Close on 100,000 people were driven from their homes by the sudden, menacing rise of the waters. Sixty persons are known to be drowned, another 300 are missing. Thousands whom crushing wall of water took unawares, at night-time, counted themselves fortunate indeed to be alive. Into an ocean-like swell the floods were whipped by a gale of near-hurricane force.

With danger still high, though the first shock was over, children and women herded into schools and other buildings big enough to be safe. The Argentine Congress pressed for a £2m. relief fund, for nothing smaller than government aid was at all adequate. For the hundreds of thousands caught in the flood area it was now some comfort to learn that help was on the way. The whole nation pitied them in their awful plight.