

consumed the entire negro district which had housed about 13,000.

The razed area is near a station on the St. Louis & San Francisco railroad, scene of the heaviest of the fighting this morning.

A few feeble flames light sections of the burned waste tonight, and a few lone walls stand against a background of smoldering debris.

Governor Goes to Scene.

Governor J. B. A. Robertson of Oklahoma arrived in Tulsa tonight to make a personal investigation of the race riots. The Governor refused to make any statement other than to say he was investigating, but said a statement would be forthcoming tomorrow.

Thousands of the negroes and their families have fled from the city and thousands more are sheltered in the fair grounds within the lines of the state troops.

For the most part the refugees were well cared for, as the Red Cross, organized again on a war footing, brought them food and comforts. Permanent buildings on the fair grounds gave shelter to most of the victims.

The refugees, who had been gathered in the Western League ball park and Convention hall during the day, were sent to the fair grounds late in the afternoon by motor cars and trucks, escorted by troops.

Adj. Gen. Barrett told the committee tonight that preparations must be made to feed and provide shelter for the refugees for at least a week or ten days. The committee tonight was considering plans to clear away the burned areas and set up tents as quickly as possible.

Known White Men Killed.

A check of the morgues tonight showed seven identified white dead.

One of the hottest engagements of the outbreak took place around a negro church where about fifty negroes had barricaded themselves.

Several massed attacks were launched against the church, but each time the attackers had to fall back under the fire of the negro defenders. Finally a torch was applied to the building and the occupants began to pour out, firing as they ran. Several of the negroes were killed.

Shortly after midnight the negro district was fired in other places and at dawn it lay a seething mass of ruins. The white invaders apparently were supplied with inflammables.

Officials estimate that more than twenty-five separate fires were set. The wind was not high and the flames were started at intervals through the section. This is believed to account for saving of the warehouses and business buildings at the edge of the burned area.

When rioting was at its height, before daylight, parties of whites and blacks stormed every store and business house of Tulsa where weapons of any kind available for conflict might be obtained. Hardware stores, sporting goods houses, pawnshops, and even small stores in windows of which guns were on display, were broken into by one race or the other, as the intruders sought weapons and ammunition. Later, all weapons and ammunition were ordered confiscated and the stores placed under armed guards.

Toward morning the negroes retreated across the tracks and into the negro sections, keeping up desultory firing from windows and doorways of houses as whites appeared.

Second section columns paragraphs June 2, 1921 Star story on Tulsa riots

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