

PELHAM, N. H.

Flood Situation Here Declared by Old Residents Worst Since 1902.

Pelham, N. H., March 13.

Friday the 13th mustered in one of the biggest floods on record in the history of Pelham.

February, 1900, and March, 1902, also brought exceptionally high water and in the memory of many residents the freshets of those two years stand out as about equal for high water marks as the present day freshet. Some say that the meadows and intervalles along old Beaver brook are today submerged as never before.

The highways approaching South bridge from the north, Pelham-Windham bridge from the south, Hutchinson, Butler's and Simpson's Pond bridges from the east and Willow Street bridge from both east and west, were submerged by a volume of overflow from Beaver brook.

North bridge at Pelham Centre and Bridge street on both sides of it, a distance of 400 feet at least, were subjected to very swift current, the depth varying upwards to 15 inches at its height. The highway was inundated along this stretch. It was found necessary to erect rail barriers and post warnings at all of these approaches mentioned and motorists who dared passed only at their own risk. Many chose to detour where detour was possible.

Much damage was done to highways and culverts all about town. Mr. Perigny, who owns and conducts a chicken ranch at South bridge, Pelham Centre, was forced to move his incubators and all other equipment from his hatching cellar to safety. His residence, as well, was nearly surrounded by Beaver brook overflow. At North Pelham "Goat Ville," on the same brook, the home of Charles Goodwin and another small cottage occupied by his son, Raymond Goodwin, a hen house and other outbuildings are located in the direct line of flood and are still in great danger of being swept away.

The floors of the living rooms are already two feet under water and ice is packed in great masses against the upstream side of the buildings.

Both of the Goodwins were forced from their homes yesterday afternoon and are being cared for by relatives in Nashua. A canoe was used today by volunteers who rescued the poultry from the place. Five cats evaded capture and are in the home.