

FLOODS WORST FOR THIRTY YEARS.

February not only filled dykes, it inundated large areas in the Midlands, the North and the West country. Sudden ~~torrential~~ torrential rains made the waters rise quicker than even elderly people could remember and the inhabitants of many places had very little warning. Low lying parts of Shrewsbury were swamped by the overflowing river Severn, which burst its banks in many places between here and Gloucester. Scores of cars and lorries were marooned, long stretches of main line were impassable and for two days transport was very much up against it. Many numbers were definitely engaged.

Getting to and from work would have been out of the question without horses and carts.

In Stafford whole streets of people were driven upstairs and the fire brigade undertook the job of taking hot food to people who hadn't had so much as a cup of tea for 24 hours.

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But it's an ill flood that doesn't float some fun for small boys. Almost as quickly as it had risen the water began to go down, not without leaving a mess which won't be cleared up for quite a while. Barges/piled up against the bridge at Northwich, ~~by~~ by the flood waters of the river Weaver. Altogether the country will have to ~~foot~~ ^{foot} a big bill for damage.