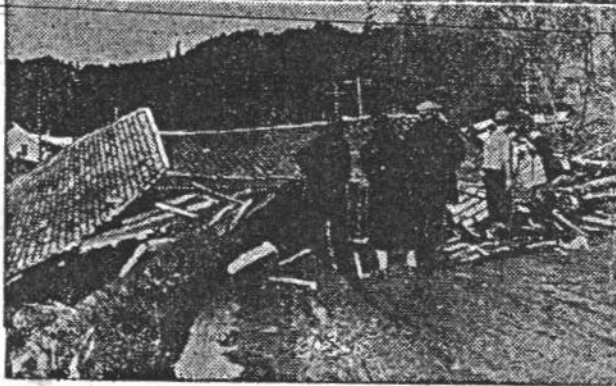


THE CONCRETE HERALD

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HUGE LANDSLIDE DEMOLISHES THREE EAST SIDE HOMES



The above photo was taken shortly after the slide, the top picture is the remains of the Green home, while the lower one shows the other side of the slide and the roof of Hutchinson's house. —Bellingham Herald

Big Concrete Slide Many Freak

The big slide in Bellingham showed many freak happenings of which appear unexplained. One was the fact that the lower floor of the Green home was a while the upper floor was to one side, with not that floor damaged; the Hutchinson's house perched on the side of the slide while all other houses were buried; and a piano was buried; and a Ford coupe on the sidewalk at the Hutchinson's house.

SERIES OF SMALLER SLIDES GIVE WARNING TO RESIDENTS—CLAY, TREES AND RUBBISH COVER ROAD AND RAILROAD TRACKS TO DEPTH OF TEN FEET

In spite of the size of the slide Friday more are expected as the hillside from which Friday's slide plunged is found to be cracked and still dangerous. One other avalanche came down Monday in the same course of the previous one but did no damage, although coming nearer to the Mertz home.

Early last Friday forenoon the residents of the entire community were alarmed by a roar and crash that the old-timers know could be nothing but a landslide—and a big one. When the fire siren sounded a few minutes later, all knew that disaster of some kind had visited the community, and feared that lives had been

lost--that some persons had been buried under the slide, the locale of which was still unknown. Hurried inquiries to the telephone office, or to neighbors, for the telephone office was swamped by calls, gave the place of the slide as East Concrete, and also the cheering news that no lives had been lost--cheering in spite of the fact that three fine homes had been reduced to splinters--and thousands of dollars worth of home furnishings buried under a mass of clay, mingled, with timber and brush--for it was only by a margin of a few minutes that a serious loss of life was averted, and even then there was a number of narrow escapes.

Three Homes Are Destroyed

The slide, one of the largest ever known in this vicinity, started at the top of the hill north of East Concrete and crashed down through almost the center of that part of town. Three homes were in its path, those of Dudley I. Green, E. M. Buchanan, and C. E. Hutchnison. All were reduced to kindling wood, and with the exception of the Green home, practically every article in the house was a total loss. By some freak of the slide, the upper story of the Green house, a two story structure was shunted off to one side of the slide and every article on that floor was saved, almost without damage. The lower floor was crushed in and only small articles of furniture escaped damage. Miss Helen Green, who had her room on the second floor, saved all her clothing and personal effects, which makes her the fortunate one among the slide victims. A large mirror in her room was hurled from its frame and found in a corner of the room, unbroken and without a scar, this being but one of the many freak occurrences of the disaster.

Warning Saves Lives

That no life was lost in the slide is

entirely due to fact that the slide came in three sections, and that the final--and main--slide was not a few minutes later. The first slide came before daylight Friday morning, when a small mass of dirt, carrying one large log, came down and lodged against the corner of the Green residence. This gave the first warning that the hillside was sliding, but did not cause any serious harm.

Soon after 9 o'clock in the forenoon another larger slide came down centering on the Buchanan home which was pushed off its foundations and shoved ahead five or six feet. All occupants of the three homes then left their houses to seek places of safety, Mrs. Buchanan and Mrs. Hutchinson having the presence of mind to drive out their cars from the rear of the dwellings. Minutes passed, with no indication of any immediate danger, and all were slowly starting back to their homes, accompanied by neighbors curious to learn what damage had been done, when the main slide started down the hillside with a roar that could be heard all over town. All fled for safety, and escaped without injury.

Mr. Buchanan had been summoned from the Superior laboratory by his wife, and accompanied by C. L. Wagner, superintendent of the plant, had just stopped in front of the Buchanan home and started towards the house when the slide came down. By fast sprinting they reached a safe spot, with Mr. Buchanan spraining his ankle in the run, the car being buried under the debris, later being found under the roof of Hutchinson's house reposing on the railroad bed on the outer edge of the slide.