

FLOOD HAVOC IN NEW SOUTH WALES

The swollen waters of the Hunter River spread ruin over the countryside after twenty days of unending rain - greatest deluge in the history of New South Wales. Roofs which weathered the lashing storms now shelter nothing but the drowned hopes of nine-thousand homeless families. The district is well and truly 'down-under' and it's not a pleasant sight.

Railway timetables are thrown overboard and safety dependent on signalling by hand. This station is in the centre of a great horse and cattle-breeding area. Now, farming has come to a standstill, and the trains which carried for them stand useless.

It's a grim prospect, with damage running into millions, and a long wait for flood waters to subside before life gets going again. Rescuers at work show that, as in Britain, so in Australia, common humanity is the one thing which cannot be submerged.

Destruction of property is a major calamity in a land desperately short of houses, and work on 18,000 new homes has been stopped. Meanwhile, DUKWs are the spearhead of a relief organisation centred in Sydney.

Down there are their homes. Britain's heart goes out to the people of New South Wales in their hour of tribulation.