

2-FF/201

5/96

FLOODS FOLLOW GALE WAVES.

Vast areas of Great Britain still lie under water as a result of the recent storms. The fierce gales and driving rain that did such fearful damage were quickly followed by floods. Farmers have suffered grievous losses. Not only have many of their livestock been swept away by the swollen rivers, but acres of their crops have been ruined. Villages have been marooned, and landslides have added to the chaos created by floods which have cut main roads and railways. Some of the worst flooding has been in the Lake district where, for the first time in living memory, Lake Derwentwater and Lake Bassenthwaite have been joined into one huge expanse of water.

The River Severn has overflowed its banks at Gloucester, and at many places along its course. The west Country has been badly hit by flooding, though happily there has been no disaster like that at Lymeouth two years ago. Now that the storms have ceased comes news that another old enemy, snow, is threatening much of the country.