

HUNDREDS KILLED AROUND VESUVIUS

Buildings Crushed By Weight of Ashes.

CROWDED CHURCH COLLAPSES

Whole Towns Burned by Torrents of Lava.

FUGITIVES CHOKE ROADS

Tens of Thousands Flee From Destroying Volcano—King and Queen Visit Ruins—Herodism of Soldiers and Priests.

NAPLES, April 9.—Reports of fatalities consequent upon the eruption of Mount Vesuvius are coming in. According to information received late tonight, probably as many as 500 lives were lost.

It is said that more than 200 persons perished in the district of San Giuseppe, where from the ruins of a church which collapsed owing to the weight of ashes on the roof, 40 corpses were extricated, and it is asserted that at Sorrento 27 persons were killed by falling houses.

A railway train from San Giuseppe for Naples was derailed, owing to showers of stones from the crater.

Cavalry proceeding to the succor of the inhabitants of the devastated section have been unable to make any progress, the rain falling on the ashes 3 feet deep having made it impossible for the horses to travel.

The sea is greatly agitated. The sky has cleared, but heavy clouds hang over the coast, threatening a further downpour.

The streams of lava are almost stationary. Troops are erecting barricades in the direction of Pompeii to prevent further damage in that quarter.

DAY OF TERROR NEAR NAPLES

Lava Burns Villages and Buildings Fall, Burying Hundreds.

NAPLES, April 9.—This has been a day of terror for the cities, towns and country about Mount Vesuvius. At midnight the situation appears more assuring, the lava streams having diminished in volume and in some directions having stopped altogether, while a copious rainfall is cooling the lava where it lies stationary.

Church Crushes Worshippers.

Almost equal to the devastation wrought by the lava is the damage done by cinders and ashes, which in incredible quantities have been carried great distances. This was caused the practical destruction of San Giuseppe, a place of 4000 inhabitants. All but 20 of the people had fled from San Giuseppe, and these 20 assembled in a church to attend mass. While the priest was performing his sacred offices, the roof fell in and about 80 persons were badly injured. The unfortunate were for hours without surgical or medical assistance. The only thing left standing in the church was a statue of St. Anne, the preservation of which the poor, homeless people accepted as a miracle and promise of deliverance from their peril.

Twelve Killed at Ottajano.

At Ottajano five churches and ten houses fell under the weight of ashes and cinders, which lie four feet deep on the ground. In the fall of the buildings about 12 persons were killed and many were injured. The village is completely deserted by its people. After the evacuation of the place the barracks and prisons fell in.

Reports from coast and inland towns depict terrible devastation. San Giorgio, Cremona, Portici, Resina and Torre del Greco have been almost completely abandoned. The inhabitants of Torre Annunziata are prepared to leave at a moment's notice. Somma Vesuviana is another village which has suffered most severely.

The most of the buildings in the villages are of flimsy construction and have flat roofs, and so are but poorly calculated to bear the weight of ashes and cinders that have fallen upon them. Inevitably it will be found that a considerable number of persons have perished by the falling of their homes. Although the eruption of the volcano is less violent than it was 24 hours ago, the ashes are still falling in great quantities.

Scene of Wreth Desolation.

The Associated Press correspondent this evening made the round of the menaced villages. The railway and tram tracks were inches deep below volcanic ashes, and the same material made the roads impracticable for horses, so that an automobile was the only means left by which the inspection of the devastated country could be made.

The scene was one of such misery and terror that it can never be obliterated from memory. As the way was traversed the traveling became more and more difficult, the smoke and ashes in the air making breathing difficult. Slight tremblings of the earth were felt, and frequent flashes of lightning cut through the smoke. Darkness came at intervals long before nightfall. In the streets of the deserted towns the only sound to be heard was the thud of lumps of ashes falling on the roofs and the puffing of the automobiles. In the towns where peo-

ple yet remain the houses are closed, the inhabitants roaming disconsolately about the streets and gaining what comfort is possible from the carriages and soldiers.

These are the heroes of the day. They seem never to sleep or be tired, and where there is danger they are cool, strong and alert.

Mountain's Cone Fallen In.

In the course of the tour a point was reached from which Vesuvius could be seen under its cloud of smoke. The high cone of the volcano has gone almost entirely, having been swallowed up so that the height of the mountain is nearly 600 feet less than formerly. On the north side of the mountain new craters have been formed.

Refugees from the threatened villages are coming into Naples by every description of conveyance and on foot. The roads are crowded with processions of men and women, carrying crosses and crying piteously. Special railway trains, warships and steamers are taking thousands of homeless people to Naples, Rome and Castellammare, while large numbers of people are fleeing overland in the direction of Caserta.

Not less than 15,000 refugees have reached Castellammare, where the steamer Princess Mafalda is anchored. This vessel left the island of Capri with 1000 passengers, including many foreigners, on board, but she was unable to reach her destination owing to the stifling clouds of ashes and the fumes of gases from the volcano which enveloped her a mile from the coast.

King and Queen Win All Hearts.

King Victor Emanuel and Queen Helena have further endeared themselves to the people by their activity in behalf of the sufferers by the eruption, and the government is exerting itself for the relief of the destitute. This work, however, is obstructed by the congestion of all means of transportation, which are monopolized by the carrying of people out of the zone of danger.

The Minister of Finance has suspended the collection of taxes in the disturbed provinces. The military authorities are distributing rations and have placed buses and tents at the disposition of the homeless.

Smoke Rises 25,000 Feet.

Professor Di Lorenzo, the scientist and specialist in the study of volcanoes, estimated that the smoke of Vesuvius has reached the height of 25,000 feet. The statement is made here that in the vicinity of Ottajano cinders and ashes from the volcano lie to a depth of 150 feet.

SUMMARY OF DAY'S HAVOC

Whole Villages Destroyed and Roads Crowded With Fugitives.

NAPLES, April 9.—The situation today could be summarized as follows:

The conditions at Torre Annunziata and Pompeii had improved, owing to the change in the direction taken by the flowing lava. On the other hand, the conditions at Ottajano were worse. Ashes and cinders had fallen there four feet deep and frequent earthquake shocks were felt. Ten houses and five churches had fallen, five persons had been killed and an unknown number of persons wounded.

Serious apprehension was felt for the inhabitants of the country in the vicinity of the town of Caserta, termed the Vesuvialles of Naples, a place of about 45,000 inhabitants, in whose direction the lava is flowing.

Whole Town Burned.

The town of Nola, an old place of 15,000 inhabitants, 2 miles from Naples, was being burned under the showers of ashes coming from the crater.

San Giorgio and Torre del Greco were half buried in ashes and sand, and the roofs of many houses had fallen in or were collapsing.

About 150,000 refugees from Vesuvius had sought shelter here and elsewhere. All the trains were delayed, owing to the tracks being covered with cinders, and heavy telegraphic communication with all points was badly congested.

The stream of lava which had been threatening Torre Annunziata, a town of 25,000 inhabitants, 17 miles from Naples, has remained stationary since Sunday evening, so that the danger that the place would be overwhelmed appeared to have passed.

Fresh Crater Opens.

The action of Mount Vesuvius had perceptibly diminished, and the shower of ashes ceased to fall over Naples for a time this morning, but ashes and sand began falling again later in the day. When the last train was leaving Boscoretre yesterday a fresh crater opened near the observatory station.

An excursion steamer attempting to reach Naples from the island of Capri today had to return, as the passengers were being suffocated by the ashes.

The quantity of ashes and cinders thrown up by Mount Vesuvius within the last 24 hours is unprecedented. An analysis showed this discharge to be chiefly composed of iron, sulphur and magnesia. When dry, the whole region seemed to be

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ALL WOULD CURB CORPORATE GREED

Candidates for the Legislature Favor Regulating Public Utilities.

TAXATION OF FRANCHISES

Law to Regulate Banks Is Favored by Those Who Would Serve the State at the Next Session.

CANDIDATES FOR LEGISLATURE

Legislative candidates outside of Multnomah county who have expressed themselves through The Oregonian as opposed to perpetual franchises and favorable to the regulation of rates to be charged by public utility corporations, favorable to taxation of franchises and favorable to the enactment of a state banking law: Frank Davey, E. Hofer, J. H. Stettin, W. M. Cherrington, E. T. Judd and Oliver Beers, of Marion County; George C. Brownell, W. W. Smith and E. P. Carter, of Clackamas; Charles A. Hardy and I. H. Bingham, of Lane; J. H. Flower, H. McCullum and Curtis L. Hawley, of Polk; C. J. Curtis, of Clatsop; J. P. Irvine, of Yamhill; A. A. Jayne, of Wasco; H. A. Johnson, of Benton; L. L. Mullis, of Jackson; H. G. Sonnemann and G. W. Riddle, of Douglas; Van B. DeLashmutt, of Washington; T. J. Kirk and W. G. Cole, of Umatilla, and J. N. Hart, of Baker.

In every part of the state candidates for the Legislature seem to be in accord with the desire of the people that some measures be taken to curb corporate greed and protect the rights of the people in the granting and taxation of franchises, the regulation of charges made by public-service corporations and the regulation of banks not governed by the National banking act. Every mail brings responses to the letters of inquiry sent out by The Oregonian asking candidates to make public their views upon these subjects, and without exception the replies have thus far shown that this paper voiced public sentiment when it protested against a continuance of practices which have prevailed in the past. In yesterday's issue publicity was given to the answers made by many of the candidates, and today the positions taken by other aspirants are made known.

T. J. Kirk's Statement.

I do not believe in the granting of perpetual franchises. I do believe in the repeal of perpetual franchises by proper legislation and the substitution of limited franchises in lieu thereof. I do not believe in the enactment of city charters which shall authorize City Councils to grant perpetual franchises. I do believe in the enactment of general laws and city charters which shall authorize City Councils to grant franchises under a law similar to the National banking law, and I will support a proper measure looking to this end. I believe that franchises are property subject to taxation. I will support a measure designed to impose adequate taxes upon public utility franchises. It shall always be my purpose to support measures for the benefit of all of the people without regard to politics.

The foregoing statement, received from T. J. Kirk of Athens, Umatilla County, shows in condensed form the views entertained by a number of other candidates for the Legislature, whose opinions were not included in those published yesterday. Among those who replied in terms much the same as those quoted from the letter of Mr. Kirk are Oliver Beers, of Marion; E. P. Carter, of Clackamas; E. T. Judd, of Marion; R. H. McCullum, of Polk; L. L. Mullis, of Jackson; Van B. DeLashmutt, of Washington; Curtis L. Hawley, of Polk; I. H. Bingham, of Lane; G. W. Riddle, of Douglas; J. N. Hart, of Baker, and W. G. Cole, of Umatilla.

What A. J. Johnson Says.

In a letter of similar tenor, A. J. Johnson, of Benton, says:

I am in hearty accord with the light being waged by your paper against corporate greed and for the rights of the people, and am in record in this city in a recent fight for an electrical franchise, stating in the capacity of the Mayor for:

First—A limited franchise.

Second—A maximum charge for both light and power, also for retention of control over rates. If in future the maximum rate as fixed should be considered unreasonably high and the company should hold the rates up above

what should be considered reasonable charges for the service rendered.

Third—A 2 per cent tax upon the gross income of the company operating under and enjoying the privilege of the franchise.

I am also in record for the repeal of what was considered a perpetual franchise, in that recently under my administration as Mayor our Council passed an ordinance repealing an old ordinance purporting to grant a perpetual franchise for a water system in our city, and now we have almost completed a municipal "mountain water" system. Also my views as expressed in my 100-word platform cover these points quite fully, including the regulation and control of state and private banks, and my service as National Bank Examiner for more than the six years just past will, I feel, enable me to be of service in the preparation and support of a law framed along lines of our National act.

For Bank Regulation.

In the course of his letter, taking a strong position on the side of the people in the franchise legislation, A. A. Jayne, of Wasco County, says:

I believe in the regulation of state and private banks under a law similar to the National banking act, though strictly speaking there cannot be in this state any such thing as a state bank. I will support a law providing for reasonable regulation of private banks in the conduct of their business generally, providing for examination from time to time by an officer of the state and for publication of financial statements when called for by the state, such statements to be verified by an owner or officer of the bank.

I fully expect to see legislation at the next session of the Legislature which will so far as possible curb the franchise evil of the past and prevent their happening in the future.

Outrageous Impositions.

H. G. Sonnemann, of Douglas County, says, among other things:

I do not believe in granting perpetual franchises. I believe that as a rule, if a proposed investment will not justify the venture with a perpetual franchise being granted by the people, then the people should own such franchise themselves. I believe that provisions generally speaking, should go with all franchises, permitting the people to take them over at a fair profit to the owners, after a limited period of time. Perpetual franchises, sure and simple, are undemocratic in every sense and unnecessary.

I believe in the regulation of state and private banks under a law similar to the National banking law, and will support such a measure. I believe such law is urgently needed in Oregon.

I do believe that franchise are property subject to taxation. I was the father of H. B. No. 100, introduced at the last session of the Legislature, which bill was intended to regulate this matter, and my work on that bill speaks for itself. I will most heartily support such a bill again if returned to the Legislature.

I am very glad to see you are taking up this matter of public utility franchises. In positions of the most outrageous kind have been perpetrated in years past in Oregon in the matter of granting them, and unless we take a people rise up and put a stop to it for all time abuses of this nature will continue to creep in here and there to work their graft in future years.

Wants a Law With Teeth.

L. L. Mullis, of Jackson County, includes in his letter the following comment:

I believe that franchises have an intrinsic value, and since all things possessing value are very likely to change in value from time to time with the growth and development of the community wherein they obtain, I am opposed to the granting of perpetual franchises.

I believe that many of our limited franchises are granted for a much longer time than we have any moral right to assume.

Limit them to one decade, assess them at a fair valuation and leave the granting and placing of value thereof to each generation by the people.

Our tax laws should be so amended as to permit of taxes being levied thereon and collected without going through the courts with each case.

A banking law should be enacted, following as nearly as possible the National banking law, that protection may be afforded in fact, merely a measure with a title and no teeth.

MAY END RACE PROBLEM

Consumption Rapidly Killing Negroes in the South.

WASHINGTON, April 9.—Dr. S. Harris, professor of medicine in the University of Alabama at Mobile, talked to the President today about the ravages of consumption among the negroes of the South. He expressed the fear, and he added that his opinion was concurred in by the medical fraternity generally in the South, that the negro race was likely to become extinct in this country through the ravages of disease, especially consumption.

Statistics showed, he declared, that the death-rate among the members of the negro race in America was greater than the birth rate.

MAKES A COMPLETE JOB

Doctor Murders Wife and Another Man and Commits Suicide.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., April 9.—Dr. A. W. Burton, a well-known physician of this city, shot and killed his wife tonight, fatally wounded Dr. T. T. Thaxton, a dentist, of Pratt City, Ala., and cut his own throat, dying a few minutes later. The Burtons were living apart.

CALLS M'CURDYS CONSPIRATORS

Mutual Life Sues ex-President and His Son Robert.

OVER \$1,000,000 DEMANDED

First Criminal Charge Growing Out of Life Insurance Scandal—Conspiracy to Obtain Exorbitant Commission Alleged.

NEW YORK, April 9.—Charges of conspiracy in the appointment of Robert H. McCurdy, as superintendent of the foreign department of the Mutual Life Insurance Company were made in a new action brought by that company today against Richard A. McCurdy, ex-president of the company, and his son, Robert. The new complaint alleges that the two McCurdys conspired to enrich Robert H. McCurdy by maintaining his compensation on a commission basis at an enormous profit.

In the suit the Mutual seeks to recover from the defendants \$1,000,000. It is alleged in the complaint that Robert H. McCurdy's profits derived from his interests in the firm of C. H. Raymond & Co., metropolitan agents for the Mutual, amounted to \$200,000 in the ten years prior to 1902. After he was made superintendent of the foreign department of the Mutual Life in 1902, it is asserted that he continued his connection with Raymond & Co. but that it was his duty to devote his entire time and energy to his new office.

It is charged that Richard A. McCurdy conspired with his son to place the commissions derived by Robert on such a basis as to prevent their reduction when the business increased and the allegation is made that the defendants knew that the commissions were exorbitant, but concealed the information from the board of trustees. According to the complaint, Robert H. McCurdy received in commissions between 1896 and 1898 the sum of \$1,233,841.

A just compensation for his services while superintendent of the foreign department is declared in the complaint to be \$20,000 a year prior to 1902; \$15,000 a year up to 1904, and \$10,000 a year thereafter until he resigned.

BAD EXAMPLES TO FOLLOW

Hughes Points Moral of Insurance Grafting Revelations.

NEW YORK, April 9.—Charles E. Hughes, counsel for the legislative insurance investigating committee and former Mayor Low spoke yesterday before the Society for Ethical Culture on "The Moral Lessons of the Recent Insurance Investigation." Mr. Hughes said that the most striking result of the investigation was its vindication of the sound moral sense of the people. Public sentiment, he said, had demanded the investigation, and made imperative the reforms.

Mr. Hughes praised the career of men like Marshall Field and deplored the fact that success obtained by dishonesty and chicanery had its effect on young men. He declared that the responsibilities of trustees had been almost lost sight of, and that today men accepted such trusts as degrees from some commercial university. He asked how many insurance directors had taken any real interest in the expenditures of their corporations, or even asked or cared about the enormous sums charged as legal expenses. In times of prosperity they had supposed officers would do their duty, and felt there was no occasion for close scrutiny. Had there been a little inquisitiveness, results which honest men would have felt bound to follow up would have been disclosed, and an investigation started.

Mr. Low said the use of corporate money to influence legislation would continue so long as men were elected to public office who demanded blackmail. He declared that there was no such thing as "honest graft."

ST. JOHN IS OUT ON BAIL

Accused Dynamiter Gives \$10,000 Bond to Colorado Court.

TELLURIDE, Colo., April 8.—Vincent St. John, president of the Miners' Union at Burke, Idaho, who was brought to Telluride from Boise to stand trial on the charge of being implicated in the murder of Ben Barram, a miner, who was killed in a strike riot here, was released on bond in the sum of \$10,000 today. The bond was provided by a surety company.

and was approved by S. H. Rutan, a condition made by the Judge who granted the application for the bond.

St. John was president of the local miners' union, then and now affiliated with the Western Federation of Miners, when the strike referred to was on. St. John had been arrested in Idaho in connection with the Stouenbergh assassination, but was brought to Colorado on requisition.

FOOD NEEDED FOR 136,000

Relief Funds Greatly Reduce Number of Famine-Sufferers.

WASHINGTON, April 8.—The latest official cable report received by the American National Red Cross from Japan states that the number of people who had to depend upon outside help is over 300,000. Of this number, more than 136,000 require a supply of food and the rest are given work and are earning their own livelihood.

The relief work started by the government since the latter part of last year and the liberal contributions coming from the native and foreign people have improved the situation immensely. It is the hope of the government that by the beginning of June the situation may be so improved as to require no more outside relief.

ALL HAVE DREAD PLAGUE

Disease of Lascars Proves to Be Bubonic.

PHILADELPHIA, April 9.—The suspicious cases of sickness on the steamer Burrethford, from Bombay, which is in quarantine here, are bubonic plague. The four patients, all Lascars, are isolated.

Pattison Is Recovering.

CINCINNATI, April 9.—At 11 o'clock tonight the following bulletin was issued: "Governor Pattison has had a very satisfactory day. He rested quietly and has taken his nourishment freely. Pulse 90, respiration 18, temperature normal."

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Candidates for Legislature favor curbing corporate greed in public utility franchises. Page 1.

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Initiative One Hundred acts apart three days for making Portland clean. Page 14.

HIS FURY TURNS AGAINST HIS WIFE

Dowie Will Not Live With Her Again.

CALLED HER VILEST OF NAMES

All Way to St. Louis Curses Her for Desertion.

VOLIVA GETS HIS SHARE

Prophet Makes Speech to Crowd at St. Louis Till Train Starts—Say: age Interviews Mark His Northward Trail.

ST. LOUIS, April 10.—Standing on the steps of the sleeper, with bared head and voice trembling from suppressed emotion, Dr. John Alexander Dowie tonight publicly denounced his wife, exclaiming dramatically: "I will not share my bed with a dog."

The Mexico special train pulled into Union Station at 12:15 A. M., four hours and 15 minutes late. A concourse of people surrounded the Dowie car as soon as it came to a stop, and Dowie soon appeared on the platform and stood with bared head for a brief interval, steadfastly gazing upon the assemblage, while a cordon of police endeavored to preserve order. When quiet was restored, Dowie with uplifted hands said:

Calls His Wife a Dog.

"My friends and fellow-Christians in the Christian Catholic Church, it is with the greatest delight that I receive your welcome at this midnight hour. There is much I would say to you, but this brief interval at this hour prevents all but a few words. The most heartless things are being faced by me this evening.

"I have had shame heaped upon me and see sin used to cover up faults. I have learned things concerning my wife, and I say to you I will not share my bed with a female dog. The great sin is my wife's betrayal of me. I stand in this midnight hour as Christ, our Holy Lord Jesus, would have me stand, and she, by her lies of last Lord's day, proclaims to my shame the things that have been heaped upon me. I came upon this unexpectedly, and now I fear her and her sins from me.

Had Hoped to Die.

"Yesterday in San Antonio a beautiful lady said to me: 'First apostle, I am so glad to see you and to see that you recognize me after five years. No one can ever complain that you are not a Christian gentleman,' and now I am cast down with the shame that has been cast upon me by my wife's sin. Let me die. The snow of winter are on my brow.

"I had hoped God would let me go last December, but God has seen fit to bring me back to health. Oh, can you imagine what this burning, shameful information has cost me?"

Raising his voice to a high pitch in its intensity, he cried out:

"I will not share my bed with a dirty dog."

Send Voliva to Penitentiary.

Pausing a moment, he exclaimed: "Good-bye, Voliva, good-bye. I will place you in the penitentiary, where your brother has been for seven years, and I will—"

"All aboard," shouted the conductor, and as the car attached to the Wabash train began its trip to Chicago, Dowie called out: "God bless you all."

The train had proceeded two lengths, with him still standing on the platform, when he again called out:

"God bless you; peace be unto you."

The train did not immediately proceed to Chicago, but into the yards, and Dowie's car was switched around and finally brought back into the Union Station, remaining but a few minutes. Dowie raised a window of his compartment and again addressed those on the platform.

Denies Charge of Extravagance.

He denied the charges of extravagance, saying he had always lived well within his income. He said that a person at the head of a large movement like that of Zion had certain expenditures and cited the fact that he was compelled to maintain a stable of five carriages for entertainment purposes alone. He also said that he had given \$200,000 last year out of his private means for the good of the church at large, and from which he received no direct returns.

He said that some of his people in Zion City had been deceived, but not all of them, as he had authentic reports from Zion City that the last meeting of the Voliva supporters had been attended by less than half of the population of Zion. Dowie declared that the report circulated to the effect that the temple had been crowded was due to the attendance of hundreds of strangers. Dowie was still talking when the train started.

Dowie Did Not Send for Money.

On the way to St. Louis tonight Deacon A. J. Lewis said to the Associated Press: "The story circulated that Dr. Dowie had wired Deacon Whitte to bring him \$500 is ridiculous and absurd. The fact of the matter is that I sent a message to Deacon Whitte to bring \$500 and meet me in St. Louis tonight. I wanted the money for my own personal use. Dr. Dowie knew nothing of my telegraphic request to Whitte and did not himself telegraph for that amount."