



DESERT WHERE VILLAGES WERE

Country Around Vesuvius Like Sahara.

FORCE OF ERUPTION IS SPENT

Naples in Terror, Stops Work, and Riots Are Feared.

BLOCKADE ON RAILROADS

Volcano Has Made Communication Impossible—Surrounding Towns Filled With Beggared Fugitives—King Relieves.

RED CROSS CALLS FOR AID. WASHINGTON, April 11.—The following official announcement was issued tonight: "The American National Red Cross announces that it will receive and forward to the Italian Red Cross any contributions for the relief of the sufferers from the disaster caused by the eruption of Vesuvius in Southern Italy." The headquarters of the Red Cross are in this city.

NAPLES, April 11.—The whole of the Vesuvius district, as far as Naples, Castellamare and Castellana, is one vast Saharan desert. Reports tonight from all sides state that the fall of ash is not so heavy as it has been for the last few days, and the ashes are much finer, and from this it is argued that the prospects are much brighter.

The blockade of local traffic continues, but service on the main lines of railway has been re-established, although greatly disarranged by the indescribable confusion in the stations where foreigners, not fully understanding the situation, inveigh against the delays and discomforts to which they have been subjected.

Naples in Humor for Riot. This has been a disquieting day in Naples. The people, alarmed by what has happened, have deserted their shops, and the crowds are in a temper for any excuse. It would only require a spark to start a conflagration. The arrival of King Victor Emmanuel and Queen Helena has done much to restore calm. They have been received with great joy, especially when the sovereigns left a hospital after a visit to the wounded there. One poor woman exclaimed: "I would consent to be exiled for the sake of being kissed by the Queen."

Others cannot find words in which to express their gratitude. Both the royal palaces of Capri di Monti and Ferdinando have been given up to refugees.

Sarno and San Genaro Safe.

Reports of the destruction of two towns, Sarno and San Genaro, the former having a population of more than 8000, have proved to be without foundation. At Sarno 2000 persons from nearby villages and farms have found refuge. Ottajano, where many lives were lost on Monday, is now practically buried.

There is great difficulty in ascertaining the actual condition of affairs in that part of the district nearest the volcano. The tram and railroad tracks are deep under sand and ashes, the roads are obliterated and even the fishermen who ply their calling on the Bay of Naples are afraid to venture out on the water anywhere in the vicinity of Vesuvius. All these conditions make it difficult to give an intelligent estimate of the loss of property. One estimate is that \$30,000,000 damage has been done and that 20,000 persons have been rendered homeless.

Reduced From Plenty to Beggary.

Everywhere in Naples and Castellamare and in the lesser towns near by, out of the danger zone, are beggared refugees who only a few days ago were prosperous and happy, though living almost underneath the shadow of the perpetual menace—the volcano of Mount Vesuvius. For these people, whose homes and crops have been destroyed, there is little consolation in the statement of scientists that ultimately the valleys and hillside will become as fertile as ever they were.

Until communication has been restored and search can be made in the houses in the afflicted districts, it will be impossible to determine how many people have perished by this eruption.

FORCE OF ERUPTION SPENT

While Victims Pray to Saints, King and Soldiers Labor. NAPLES, April 11.—Conditions tonight in the section affected by the eruption of Mount Vesuvius are greatly ameliorated. The fall of volcanic ashes has diminished and the scientists express the opinion that the volcano has spent its force. All the papers tonight are advising the public to be calm, pointing out the improved condition of affairs. The papers also eulogize Director Matteucci for his courage in returning to the ruined observatory on Mount Vesuvius and sending from that place messages of encouragement and expressions of confidence that Vesuvius will soon quiet down.

The theaters, cafes and places of amusement throughout the city have

been closed and before all the sacred images in the streets candles are kept burning, while smaller images are being carried about, in many cases being set down in the open air and surrounded by candles.

Troops are engaged in clearing the roofs of buildings of the accumulation of sand and ashes, which endangers the structures. The large glass-covered galleries throughout the city, which are much frequented, have been ordered closed lest the weight upon the roofs cause them to collapse.

Villages Partly Burned.

The village of San Genaro has been partially buried in sand and ashes and several houses have fallen. At that place three persons were killed and more than 20 injured.

In the road at Torre del Greco three persons were found dead from suffocation.

The people who remain at Torre Annunziata are in danger of perishing from starvation, all the shops having been closed. Rations for 200 persons have been sent there.

The warships ordered here have been doing effective service in the removal of refugees.

King Directing Relief.

Premier Sonnino reached here today by train from Rome, his journey having been greatly impeded. He had a conference immediately after his arrival with King Victor Emmanuel, with whom he discussed the measures to be adopted to restore public confidence, maintain order, aid the refugees and repair the damage caused by the eruption. The King directed that the royal palace of San Ferdinando be opened for the reception of wounded refugees.

Firemen and ambulances from Rome have been sent here to aid in the care of sufferers.

Two American girls, who had heedlessly ventured into the Vesuvius district, where the abandonment of the train by which they were traveling caused them much discomfort and no little peril, were brought here today by the steamer St. Don. They were delighted that their adventure had no more serious ending.

Distress Among Fugitives.

The distress among the tens of thousands of fugitives is appalling. The government has forwarded supplies of food and money, several of the Italian cities have done the same, and private citizens are contributing money for the assistance of the sufferers. More help is needed.

King Victor Emmanuel has placed the royal palace of Capri di Monti, situated above the city, at the disposal of the wounded refugees, and early in the day announced his intention of returning to Naples from Rome in order personally to direct the relief work. The news caused much satisfaction, and when their majesties reached Naples this evening, they received a most enthusiastic greeting. Later the King and Queen visited the sufferers in the hospital and were heartily cheered as they passed through the streets.

At Least 500 Are Killed.

It is now officially admitted that Ottajano has been buried. The number of killed there and in the surrounding villages is not known, but 300, it is believed, would be a low estimate.

Even Capri, a small island off the coast of Campania, 19 miles south of Naples, a favorite resort for tourists and artists, has been covered with ashes and has been abandoned.

The magnitude of the disaster is almost indescribable. Some idea of the difficulties encountered by the authorities in obtaining accurate knowledge of the situation may be gained from the fact that Minister of Finance Salandra and Under Secretary of State Denava were

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CANDIDATES ASK FOR SQUARE DEAL

Manifest No Disposition to Impose Unjust Burdens on Corporations.

SHOWN BY MANY LETTERS

Interesting Answers Received From Recipients of Oregonian's Circular of Inquiry—Two Opposed to State Banking Law.

FRANCHISE REGULATION THE ISSUE.

Letters are still coming in from candidates for the Legislature making known their views upon franchise legislation, an answer to requests recently mailed to the candidates by the Oregonian. As a rule the aspirants for seats in the Legislature gladly respond to the invitation to avail themselves of the columns of this paper to inform the voters of their position upon questions concerning which the interests of the people and the corporations conflict. Some of the candidates reside at such a distance that there has not yet been time for their replies to be received, but there are others who live in near-by counties who have not responded. Perhaps a few of these believed that it is some of the public's business what they think of the granting of perpetual franchises, the regulation of rates to be charged by public utility corporations, the regulation of banks, etc. The general interest that has been manifested in the subject leaves no doubt that the owners of tangible property who cannot escape taxation recognize this as the leading subject for legislative action and that they will be interested to know how the several candidates stand upon the question. As fast as replies are received they will be made public.

"There should be no perpetual franchises, nor franchises of any kind, granted without some provision for compensation to the public," says W. K. Newell, of Washington County, who is a candidate for Republican nomination for the Legislature. "In most cases the tax should take the form of a percentage on the gross earnings, regulated from time to time as the franchise grows in value. We want to encourage electric car lines in Oregon, and the burdens should not be heavy at first, but wise provision must be made for the future when all these franchises will be of great value."

This view is expressed by a letter written by Mr. Newell to the Oregonian in answer to a request for his opinions upon the subject. Like most of the candidates, he favors reasonable legislation, which shall not cripple industry and which shall nevertheless protect the people from the greed of franchise-holding corporations.

Candidates who are answering the inquiry for their views upon the subject of franchises and the regulation of banks, show no disposition to go to extremes or to impose unreasonable burdens upon corporations in the future because the corporations have exacted unreasonable

charges from the people and escaped their just share of the tax burden in the past. No one proposes confiscation of property. There is no suggestion that perpetual franchises be repealed and no others substituted.

The question propounded by The Oregonian upon this point was whether perpetual franchises should be repealed and limited franchises substituted, and the policy thus indicated has received unanimous support.

Candidates Wish to Be Fair.

That the candidates for the Legislature desire to be fair is evident from the wording of many of their replies, but it is also clear that they are determined that the corporations shall no longer be unfair and that the rights of the people shall be protected. The right to regulate rates has been granted by public utility corporations and to require such corporations to pay a reasonable tax upon their franchises, has the support of every candidate who has informed The Oregonian of his views.

The enactment of laws of this character will enable the people to compel the corporations to pay a fair portion of the revenue necessary for the maintenance of the state, county and municipal governments, without their showing the burden of the tax upon the people by an increase of charges for service.

Against Perpetual Franchises.

Barrett, Smith and Robinson favor the repeal of perpetual franchises if it can be done legally. Jesse Edwards favors the repeal "upon equitable settlement, but does not indicate what he would consider a proper settlement in the granting of a limited franchise in the place of the one that is in its terms limited." Mr. Crawford remarks that in repealing franchises already granted we should be careful.

Mr. Calvert favors repeal of perpetual franchises "if done with proper regard for the equitable rights of capital which has been invested in the operation of such franchises." He also says he "will not promise to vote for every measure simply because the title thereof promises to obtain a certain desired result. I must first assure myself as far as I am able to analyze that its effect will be to protect the interests it is designed to protect, without oppressing those interests it proposes to regulate."

F. J. Miller favors the substitution of limited for perpetual franchises when the same can be done with honor and justice.

N. C. McLeod, of Union County, is one of two candidates for the Legislature, so far as heard from, who do not see the need of a law for the regulation of banks. The other is J. H. Flower, of Polk County, whose views on the subject were published last Monday. Mr. McLeod, in a letter received today, expressed himself as opposed to a law which shall give state and private banks authority to issue bills, etc., to circulate as money, something which no one ever suggested, by the way, and then says: "It is hard for me to conceive of a better system than our present banking system."

Would Guard Vested Rights.

McLeod is opposed to the granting of either perpetual or exclusive franchises except where the substitution of a limited franchise might interfere with the future enjoyment of a vested right; such a law might amount to an attempt to confiscate property, retard progress, and injure the state.

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LINE TO PARALLEL NORTHERN PACIFIC

Grading to Commence on Harriman Extension From Columbia North.

ENGINEER HOOD IN CHARGE

Washington & Northern to Be Constructed Under the Auspices of the Southern Pacific, According to Indications.

TACOMA, Wash., April 11.—(Special.)—Harriman officials at Portland have directed H. S. Huson and Arvid Rydstrom immediately to assemble teams and other equipment and commence grading for the Harriman railroad extension from the Columbia River north to Tacoma. Huson is now in Oregon, securing six carloads of horses. Rydstrom is in Portland securing other equipment.

It is understood that the extension from Portland to Tacoma, under the name of the Washington & Northern Railroad will be built under the auspices of the Southern Pacific Railroad, rather than the Union Pacific or O. R. & N. This is why real estate purchases in Tacoma and Seattle have been directed from San Francisco, rather than from Omaha.

This is also why the engineering work is in charge of William Hood, chief engineer of the Southern Pacific. As near as can be learned the new line will parallel the Northern Pacific the greater part of the way north from the Columbia. It will also parallel the old Union Pacific right of way. Rydstrom was formerly Northern Pacific engineer under Huson, and lives in Tacoma.

WILD STAMPEDE FOR GOLD

NEVADA TOWNS EMPTY INTO CHURCHILL COUNTY.

Endless String of Vehicles From Carson to Cooney Springs. Virginia City Has Fever.

CARSON, Nev., April 11.—The reported strike of gold in Churchill County has stampedede Carson. Early this morning there was a string of vehicles and automobiles heading for Churchill County to reach the Cooney Springs strike. The town seems to have been almost deserted today in the pell mell rush for the new gold discovery.

News comes from Virginia City and other towns that the stampede has affected them in the same manner. Tonight there are rumors of another strike within 20 or 30 miles of this city.

Francis Joseph to Receive Storer.

VIENNA, April 11.—(Special.)—It is now certain that so far as the continental powers are concerned, Bellamy Storer, ex-Ambassador from the United States to

Austria-Hungary, has successfully repudiated the statements cabled from abroad that he has been guilty of grave diplomatic conduct. This was positively shown by a statement issued late Wednesday night from the Foreign Office that the Emperor would receive Mr. Storer "unofficially" Thursday morning in audience.

GRIEVES AT SON'S DEATH

Mrs. Raymond Is Virtually Under Arrest at Los Angeles.

LOS ANGELES, Cal., April 11.—The Coroner's inquest over the body of 14-year-old Frank Raymond, who met death yesterday in Hollywood by gas asphyxiation, was postponed today until next Monday, pending the recovery of Mrs. Raymond, who was brought to the County Hospital today. She is still very weak from the results of inhalation of gas. She is now virtually under arrest.

During her removal today Mrs. Raymond expressed great anguish over the death of her son.

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DOWIE SUDDENLY CHANGES TUNE

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WILL BE SETTLED AMICABLY

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DECIDES AGAINST LAWSUIT

After Announcing Purpose to Have Deeds Set Aside, He Becomes Conciliatory—Payment of Debts and Pensions.

CHICAGO, April 11.—(Special.)—At a late hour tonight a statement was given out by Emil C. Wetten which probably settles Dowie's fight against disinterment in Zion City and leaves Voliva in control. This statement in effect is that Dowie has agreed to relinquish financial authority in Zion if Voliva and his advisers can assure him that all debts outstanding against Zion and her industries will be paid dollar for dollar and himself guaranteed a sufficient pension for life to maintain himself commensurate with his position.

This was the proposition made by Mr. Wetten to Voliva and his advisers this afternoon. CHICAGO, April 11.—At the conclusion of a day of conferences between representatives of the opposing interests of the Christian Catholic Church, the statement was made at midnight that the whole controversy would probably be settled by conciliation. Both sides to the dispute, according to Emil C. Wetten, John Alexander Dowie's legal representative, are anxious for an amicable adjustment of the whole matter.

This announcement was made by Mr. Wetten after his return to Chicago tonight from Zion City, where he went this afternoon and was in conference with General Overseer Voliva, Overseer Speicher, Overseer Piper, Overseer Grainger and Judge Barnes, the head of Zion City's law department. The statement was made by Mr. Wetten immediately after the conference he had with Mr. Dowie and his counsellors, which lasted until midnight. At this meeting Mr. Wetten told Dowie and his lieutenants what had transpired at the meeting he had had with Voliva and his assistants.

Had Intended Going to Law.

Earlier in the evening a statement had been given out from Dowie's apartments that the whole matter would be thrown into the courts tomorrow for a settlement, but after the consultation with Mr. Wetten on his return from Zion there seemed to be a sudden change in the warlike attitude which all along has been assumed by Dowie and his advisers. Mr. Wetten in making his statement said Dowie had appointed him to speak officially for himself (Dowie) while the negotiations for a settlement were going on.

"The report that Dr. Dowie would seek redress in the courts is entirely wrong," said Mr. Wetten, "that will be our last resort and I am of the opinion tonight that there will be no need to ask the courts for assistance. Dr. Dowie's principal desire in this matter is to secure every person who has ever invested a dollar in Zion City or any of the business enterprises of his recieves payment in full on investments."

Will Work for Conciliation.

"At the conference I had in Zion City today with those now in control of that place, considerable progress was made in reaching an understanding. We went over the whole situation as to their rights and as to what was due to Dr. Dowie. At the meeting tonight with Dowie and his counsellors, I informed them of the attitude of those in control at Zion City and advised conciliation. Dowie and his party seemed favorably impressed with what I had to say, and it was decided that I should continue my efforts for peace."

"Nothing was mentioned as to who should be the ecclesiastical head of the church, as we did not have time to touch on that point. Our plans are still only in the primary stage, but a plan is being considered whereby an effort will be made to have the whole affair left to a board of arbitration to be chosen from representatives of both sides."

Dowie's Nurse Deserts Him.

Dowie lost a local adherent today in the person of Miss Elizabeth McLennan, who has accompanied him as a nurse on the long journey taken to regain his health. The woman went to Zion City today after she had a heated interview with Dowie, in which she defiantly told him she could no longer remain as a member of his party, because she believed that Mrs. Dowie and Gladstone Dowie had been shamefully maligned by "the First Apostle" in his speech delivered from the car steps in St. Louis two nights ago. On her arrival at Zion City she immediately sought out Mrs. Dowie and Gladstone Dowie and tendered them her sympathy and assistance.

In referring to the threat of Gladstone Dowie that, if his father did not cease his attacks upon Mrs. Dowie, he would reveal certain deeds said to have occurred in 1877, Dr. Dowie said: "Sorry His Son Was Born." I remember nothing particular that occurred in the year 1877. I know of no reasons why any exposure of my acts during that period of time should cause me to be afraid. Coming to think of it, however, there is one thing that happened in the year 1877 which I greatly regret and that is that no Lord gave me a son, whom I named Gladstone Dowie. All my life I've tried to give him counsel and supply him with money, but my efforts in leading him to the path that I would have him walk have been without result. Now I want to say that, unless this young man ceases making these threats and insinuations, I will be forced to reveal his true character in the world.



THE ERUPTION OF MOUNT VESUVIUS IN 1877. FROM A PHOTOGRAPH TAKEN AT THAT TIME.