



FIERY RIVER FLOWS DOWN ETNA'S SIDE

Lava Advances 3 to 4 Feet Each Minute.

HOUSES OF PEASANTS BURIED

Rain of Cinders Falls and Deep Roaring Is Heard.

VILLAGES ARE IN DANGER

Continued Rumbblings and Quiverings of Earth Drive Natives Terror-Stricken to Carry Images in Procession—Craters Open.

CATANIA, March 24.—Mount Etna is again in a state of violent activity. A pronounced movement within the crater began last night, steadily increased in volume, and tonight the greatest fears are entertained of the results if the activity continues in its present form.

From Catania a correspondent motored toward the mountain. Beyond the village of Masoia, 12 miles in a direct line from the crater, a thick curtain of smoke was encountered which entirely concealed Etna.

Lava Flows Four Feet Minute.

The lava flow had already reached the vineyards above San Leo and Rinazzo, seven miles from the crater, and had buried many peasant houses. It came in several streams and united in one great mass about 20 feet high and 1500 feet wide. Its velocity was estimated at three to four feet a minute, varying according to the condition of the ground. This mighty wall of lava tonight was not more than five miles from Belpasso and Nicolosi.

Earth Shakes Amid Roaring.

At Nicolosi, 10 miles from the crater, the entire population had gathered in the square to watch the volcano, which appeared as a black phantom above. Now and then it was illuminated with flashes of light. Higher up the rain of cinders became thicker and extended like a veil across the mountain. A deep roaring was heard and detonations resembling artillery followed one another in quick succession, while the earth shook.

One of the guides cried "An earthquake!" and could hardly be induced to continue. The hot cinders covered the ground like a thick carpet, rendering walking difficult.

Red-Hot River Rushes Down.

A peasant was encountered coming down. He said: "The fire is rushing down, burning everything. The lava is like a red-hot river."

Proceeding a little further, four colossal columns of black smoke could be observed. Occasionally they were cut by flashes of fire, presenting an awe-inspiring spectacle. The wind opened the clouds for a moment and a wide strip of earth could be seen in the distance advancing with monstrous contortions. It fell in torrents from Mount Capriolo, spreading out in the valley below.

Images Carried, Prayers Made.

The meteorological station on the mountain side had been destroyed and the village of Borretto is in serious danger.

The natives, terror-stricken, are fleeing from their homes. There have been 50 earth shocks and there is a continuous vibration and trembling for many miles. Everywhere the villagers are carrying images in procession and are imploring mercy. Twelve new craters have been opened up.

Help for Afflicted Organized.

Help for the people of the devastated region is being organized here. A detachment of soldiers and a large number of engineers and doctors have gone forward.

The prefect of Catania, returning from the mountain this morning, said: "I have witnessed a spectacle of desolation and ruin which only those who saw the eruption of Vesuvius in 1868 can imagine. The destroyed eruption can be compared to no other."

Danger Lines Established.

The authorities have issued orders that no one shall be permitted to go beyond Belpasso and soldiers have been stationed at various points to see that these orders are obeyed. The village of Borretto is surrounded by the lava and the inhabitants have fled to Belpasso.

Professor Riccio, director of Mount Etna Observatory, said tonight: "The eruption is very grave and I think it will become much more serious. The lava has covered five miles in 16 hours, and if any calculations are right, the eruption of the volcano will not be short."

Dr. Walter Craven, an Englishman, after his return today from Nicolosi, where he made photographs of the lava, said:

"Horrible detonations made the ground tremble under my feet, and it was impossible to keep the camera steady more than for a moment. Many tourists, among whom Ameri-

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SHERIFF LACKS IN COURT ETIQUETTE

PUNCTILIOUS PRISONER RESENTS RUDE ARREST.

Threat to Kill High School Girl Charged Against Near-Graduate of Heidelberg.

VANCOUVER, Wash., March 24.—(Special.)—If Sheriff Sappington had had the foresight to say, "I am from the KING," and had presented his card when he sought to arrest Dr. Powell Woerner today at the Vancouver High School, perhaps he would have escaped a wrenched shoulder and a general mousing up.

But the Sheriff landed his man without the formula the prisoner would have prescribed. Dr. Woerner is accused of having threatened to kill Miss Verne Sponski, 16 years old, a student at the high school, because she would not marry him.

Woerner says that he is a near-graduate of Heidelberg and Fretberg. He has been staying recently at the home of Dr. A. F. Stowell, where Miss Sponski makes her home. At Dr. Stowell's request he left the house, but it is charged that he followed the girl and forced his attentions upon her.

When he was searched, a revolver was found in his pocket, and an additional charge of carrying concealed weapons was made. His said that Miss Sponski had promised to marry him. When Superintendent Shumway ordered him to leave the school, he refused to go, and the Sheriff was called. Woerner made a lively resistance.

"I did not know who he was," said Woerner, who explained how he thought he should have been arrested.

MEAL COSTS FIST FIGHT

California Hotel, Scene of Mixup, Not on Sporting Docket.

YOSEMITE, Cal., March 24.—(Special.) Reports from El Portal tell of a fist fight to the finish at Hotel El Portal this morning, not scheduled in the sporting calendar.

It seems the trouble arose when Charles Walker, of Mariposa, dropped around to the dining room for breakfast and, owing to alleged personal animosity, existing between Walker and C. A. Babb, manager of the hotel, the night clerk, a large and imposing Englishman, came in and ordered the "bloomin' intruder out."

Walker refused to go until he had eaten the meal for which he expected to pay. The clerk argued the question and finally succeeded in getting him to the door, where the fight began, resulting in the Englishman's getting knocked out by a well delivered blow to the jaw.

Walker, carrying minor bruises about the eye and a torn coat, went back and finished his breakfast. Walker plans to sue Babb for damages for refusing to allow him to peacefully partake of and pay for a meal at a public hostelry.

'LONG-LOST SON' EN ROUTE

Second Claimant for Fortune Leaves California for East.

CAMBRIDGE, Mass., March 24.—The contest over the estate of Daniel Russell of Melrose, Mass., by a man asserting he is a long-lost son from North Dakota, closed today, so far as the evidence is concerned. Since September 20 last the case has occasioned a total cost to both sides of \$200,000, or nearly a third of the value of the estate.

Simultaneously, by a man asserting the report that another claimant to the title of Daniel Blake Russell, the long-lost son, had left Fresno, Cal., to make his plea for a share in the property.

WAGNER'S SEARCH FUTILE

Constable Hunts San Francisco Cafes for Fugitives in Vain.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 24.—Constable Lou Wagner left San Francisco this morning for Portland, having in custody Charles Stevenson, who is wanted in the Northern city on a charge of passing fictitious checks. Stevenson, it is said, was formerly employed as salesman for a wholesale marble establishment. He was arrested here Saturday.

Constable Wagner also brought with him warrants of arrest for several other men wanted in Portland for more or less serious offenses. He makes a fruitless tramp through Market street for the alleged criminals; also made a vain search in the innumerable cafes of hidden San Francisco.

MISS DALY TO WED COUNT

Hungarian Nobleman Gets License to Marry Copper King's Daughter.

NEW YORK, March 24.—Count Anton Sigray, of Budapest, the Hungarian nobleman who is to marry Miss Harriet Daly, daughter of the late Marcus Daly, the Montana copper king, today obtained at the City Hall a license for the marriage.

The Count's age was recorded as 30 years and that of Miss Daly at 25. The wedding will take place March 29 at the residence of the bride's mother on Fifth avenue.

STUDENT IS BEAR HUNTER

Ralph St. Pierre Kills Three Full-Grown Bears and Two Cubs.

NEWPORT, Or., March 24.—(Special.)—Ralph St. Pierre, an O. A. C. student living in Salem, in company with Guy Satterlee, of Beaver Creek, killed three full-grown bears and two cubs, between the hours of 9 and 1 last Monday.

The bears were in Beaver Creek swamp.

EGYPT'S KHEDIVÉ WELCOMES 'TEDDY'

Natives Throng Cairo, See Roosevelt

MRS. ROOSEVELT IS GUEST

Khedivah Is Hostess, Conversing in French.

AID OF POLICE DECLINED

Fear of Demonstrations as Result of Colonel's Khartoum Speeches Dispersed—Protection Not Wanted by Roosevelt.

CAIRO, Egypt, March 24.—Colonel Roosevelt's visit excited much interest here today, not only among the many Americans who have arrived at Cairo purposely to see the ex-President, but among the natives generally, that he is taking measures to avoid demonstrations.

Great crowds gathered about the entrance of Shepherd's Hotel, where the Roosevelts are quartered, and twice today Colonel and Mrs. Roosevelt were compelled to leave the building by the garden entrance to keep away from the enthusiastic people.

Talk With Khedive Is in English.

Half an hour was spent this afternoon in conversation with the Khedive, who showed keen interest in the Colonel's hunting trip. Politics was not discussed, but there was an exchange of views on irrigation and agriculture. The conversation was conducted in English.

In the meantime the Khedivah received Mrs. Roosevelt and Miss Ethel with many marks of distinction. Coffee was served in golden cups encrusted with diamonds.

The Khedivah began the conversation in French and it was carried on in that language. She was particularly interested in the position of women in America.

The Khedive returned the ex-President's visit at the American consulate, where he remained for some time.

In the evening the Roosevelt party went by automobile to the Meza House, which is close to the pyramids, to see the sphinx by moonlight.

City Decked in Stars and Stripes.

Long before daylight the city had been decked with American flags, from the old Arabian Carlo through Ezbekieh Garden, to the fashionable foreign quarter of Ismailyia. For days the one topic of conversation had been the expected arrival of the American statesman and hunter and in the restaurants, on the streets and in the corridors of the hotels his name was heard continually.

The season at the hotels is nearly closed, but hundreds of Americans and other tourists remained for today's demonstration. An hour before train time an enormous crowd gathered at the railway station, and there was a good deal of jostling for points of vantage.

Colonel Roosevelt was received formally by Major L. O. F. Stack, British agent in the Sudan and director of intelligence, who expressed the regrets of Sir

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MINE PEACE IS PROMISED

Pennsylvania and Indiana May Make Concessions; Ohio Firm.

CINCINNATI, O., March 24.—For the first time since the miners and operators of Ohio, Indiana and Western Pennsylvania went into a joint conference here, more than two weeks ago, peace for at least two-thirds of those concerned appeared in sight tonight.

The sub-scale committee adjourned late today to meet with the scale committee of the whole tomorrow and make a report. Although this was not given out officially, yet unofficially it was learned that the scale committee of Western Pennsylvania had issued their ultimatum this afternoon, which consisted of an increase in wages of 5 cents a ton on plank work. Indiana is also rumored to have offered this compromise, but the rumor could not be verified.

Ohio operators are standing firm in opposition to any concessions.

NEW DIPLOMATS NAMED

Various Applicants for Secretaryships Pass Examinations.

WASHINGTON, March 24.—The following named candidates for secretaryships in the United States diplomatic service, having successfully passed the required examination, have received appointments as follows:

Richard C. Bundy, of Ohio, Secretary of Legation at Monrovia, Liberia; Richard O. Marsh, of Illinois, Secretary of Legation at Panama; Sheldon L. Crosby, of New York, Third Secretary of Embassy at London; William Spencer, of Pennsylvania, Third Secretary of Embassy at St. Petersburg; Perry Belden, of New York, Third Secretary of Embassy at Berlin; William W. Smith, of Ohio, Third Secretary of Embassy at Constantinople.

SOUTHWEST PART OF STATE UNITES

Various Districts Join for Development.

HARMONY OF EFFORT, KEYNOTE

Nine Washington Counties Are Represented at Centralia.

PROMOTION IS ORGANIZED

Southwestern Washington Development Association Launched to Work for Rivers and Harbors and Building of Good Roads.

CENTRALIA, Wash., March 24.—(Special.)—At the close of an enthusiastic meeting of commercial organizations representing Southwestern Washington, when the Southwestern Washington Development Association was formed, C. O. Gingrich, of Chehalis, was elected the first president and J. E. Bartos, of Centralia, the first secretary. W. J. Patterson, of Aberdeen, was elected vice-president.

Resolutions were adopted with a ringing cheer pledging the power of the organization in the halls of the state to advancement of the district bounded by Grays Harbor on the north and the Columbia River on the south.

Threatened Disaster Overcome. For a time after the meeting was called to order it looked as though the movement would meet disaster on the rocks of local jealousies the various districts seeming to want official recognition on the roster of the association.

The temporary chairman, Eli Rockey, tactfully secured the adoption of a resolution calling for a committee on organization. Grays Harbor delegates wanted A. C. Little, owner of the town of Raymond, for president. Mr. Little frankly informed the convention that he was disqualified because of his partiality for the place where lots are sold by the gallon at high tide.

Finances Are Assured. The organization committee succeeded in raising funds to finance the association for the ensuing year. The headquarters will be in Centralia.

The resolutions pledge the association to the development of the rivers and harbors of Southwest Washington, and to the promotion of the movement for good roads.

The officers of each commercial organization are made members of the association. Each club will also elect three members, making a total of five members.

Next Meeting at Raymond.

The next meeting of the association will be at Raymond, May 27 to 28. A meeting will also be held at Hoquiam, July 22 and 23. At the close of the convention a banquet was tendered at the Hotel Centralia, at which 125 guests were present.

Tom Richardson, of Portland, was the principal speaker. The keynote of his address was:

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SUFFRAGE LEADER ACTIVE IN FRANCE

FEMALE CANDIDATES WILL BE OUT IN EVERY DISTRICT.

If Elected Women Will Establish Reforms in Social and Economic Conditions.

PARIS, March 24.—(Special.)—If the leaders of the French women suffragists carry out their programme, the elections next month will be much livelier than usual, as they intend to present women candidates for deputies in every arrondissement of Paris, as well as in other parts of France. The candidates will be placed before the electors without the formality of primaries, and there is no way of preventing this action.

Marguerite Durand, journalist and lecturer and former editor of a woman's daily paper, La Fronde, who has started the campaign, said today when asked as to the programme if the women were elected: "First, we wish to get the right to vote and to hold all political offices. Personally, my first desire is to abolish the sale of absentee, close public gambling-rooms, reduce the number of cafes, reform the divorce laws, humanize the prison system by appointing women inspectors, and then to legislate on social and economic questions affecting women."

EXPOSITION IS ORGANIZED

Panama-Pacific Plans Interest of All Coast States.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 24.—Permanent organization of the Panama-Pacific International Exposition Company was effected today, following the incorporation of the company yesterday with a capitalization of \$5,000,000. Homer S. King, a well-known local banker, was elected president. A. W. Foster was chosen treasurer and R. J. Taussig secretary. The present board of directors will serve as the board of directors for the new company.

Charles C. Moore, the envoy who made the trip around the world for the purpose of interesting other cities in the Portola Festival, held here last October, was chosen chairman of the committee on exploitation and public relations. The finance committee appointed several days ago will be unchanged.

A Pacific Coast Exposition committee was appointed, the duties of which will be to weld the interests of the states of the Pacific Slope in the fair. "When we go to Washington to ask for an appropriation, it must be with the backing and authorization of Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Utah and Nevada, as well as California," said Secretary Taussig.

FOLK HOMELESS BY FIRE

West Virginia Village Destroyed, Troops Furnish Tents.

CHARLESTON, W. Va., March 24.—With almost every house in the prosperous mountain village of Mount Hope destroyed by fire today, at least 2000 homeless persons are tonight sleeping on the commons.

Conditions which followed the conflagration are much worse than early reports indicated. Upon the arrival at Mount Hope tonight of the special train bearing the National Guard, tents were distributed and an effort is being made to house as many as possible. Many of the families lost all their household effects, and even with the assistance rendered by the troops, the situation is fraught with great suffering.

McCall Denies Transaction.

When evidence was produced showing that E. E. McCall, now a State Supreme Court Justice, had written Buckley's name above his own on a check for \$35,000, which was one of the three loans made by the Phenix Fire Insurance Company of Brooklyn through Sheldon, McCall knew nothing at all of the transaction and had merely acted at his request. He had admitted he had not indorsed the check, and identified the handwriting in which his name was written as that of Justice McCall.

Mr. Hotchkiss said he would be glad to have the matter cleared up by the Justice, but did not say he would ask him to appear as a witness.

Fairbanks Reaches Home

Thousands Out to Give Welcome After World Tour.

INDIANAPOLIS, March 24.—The welcome home this afternoon of ex-Vice-President Charles W. and Mrs. Fairbanks, returning from their world tour, began with greetings at the Union Station. There was an informal reception committee, numbering thousands, of "home folks," led by Governor Marshall, Mayor Samuel Lewis Shank of Indianapolis and prominent citizens of the city and state, attended by a detachment of troops from the regular army post at Fort Benjamin Harrison and companies of state militia.

At the soldiers' and sailors' monument an address of welcome by Governor Marshall ended the programme.

Aviator Watches Birds

Buzzards Do Not Fly Well in Capital of Mexico.

MEXICO CITY, March 24.—Alberto Braniff, the Mexican aviator, has abandoned experiments here and has shipped his aeroplane to Vera Cruz. Braniff never succeeded in flying very high nor in staying long in the air.

He brought buzzards here from Vera Cruz and turned them loose. They were veritably few close to the ground, and not more than a mile or so. More than half the birds died upon alighting. This proved, Braniff said, the impossibility of flying in this altitude.

Cook Letter Distorted

Dr. Axtell Declines to Publish Private Correspondence.

BELLINGHAM, March 24.—Dr. W. T. Axtell, a friend of the explorer, Dr. Frederick A. Cook, declined today to make public the exact text of the letter he has received from Mrs. Cook, but said that the published version of it was not authorized.

"The letter was a private one, from a friend," he said. "Everything I have said regarding it has been distorted. No, the letter is private, and I must decline to give out its text."

COURT DECISIONS TOLD IN ADVANCE

Inquiry Shows Power of Lobbyist.

CASH HANDLED BY BUCKLEY

Name of Justice McCall Written on Check for \$35,000.

SHELDON PLAYING MARKET

Letter From Insurance President Chides Legislative Agent for Failure to Tell How Court Would Decide Tax Case.

NEW YORK, March 24.—W. H. Buckley, the Albany lawyer, according to his own admissions, was even able to obtain advance information concerning decisions of the Court of Appeals. This, in addition to his other services in insurance legislation, made him well worth the money he admits he received.

Buckley for years was legislative agent for fire insurance companies. On the face of the evidence produced in the first insurance hearing today, Buckley was well-nigh invincible in Albany. Letters were produced today containing these statements of fact. They were letters exchanged between Buckley and the late George P. Sheldon, who was president of the Phenix Life Insurance Company of Brooklyn.

Miles M. Dawson, a consulting actuary of New York, testified under oath that Buckley had informed him that he could not get favorable action on a bill in which he was interested unless he paid some money to "the boys."

Justice's Name on Check.

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The letters relative to the Court of Appeals were read later in the afternoon. There were two of them. The first, dated April 29, 1903, was from Sheldon to Buckley. It read in part: "I note the Court of Appeals has decided the franchise tax law is constitutional. I wish I had gotten on to this earlier, for I am satisfied this is one of the things which have been hanging over the market, and if I could have learned previously what the decision was likely to be, there would have been money in this for all of us. Whenever anything like this is pending in Albany, it will always pay you to advise me, if you can, of the probable outcome."

Information Is Promised.

Buckley replied the next day as follows: "I am sorry I did not know it would be of any interest to you to have information about the franchise decision. I told some of our friends two weeks ago what it would be, but I was advised from very important quarters that as long as the decision would be that the law was constitutional, it would not have much effect on the market and I did not think it advisable to say much about it. If it had been the other way, you would have been advised, because I knew of your interests in 'big gas.' In the future I will keep you advised."

Henry Evans, president of the Continental Fire Insurance Company, was on the stand today long enough to say that he contributed \$2500 to a fund Sheldon raised in 1903 to defeat legislation adverse to the companies.

BIG CITY DAILIES PICKED

Washington to Advertise Granted Land Sales in Them Particularly.

OLYMPIA, Wash., March 24.—(Special.)—The State Capitol Commission has decided in advertising the sale of the State Capitol granted lands in Clark, Skamania and Cowlitz counties, set for May 26, to use only big city dailies of the Northwest and the local papers in the counties in which the timber is located. Already numerous inquiries are pouring in from the various state officials for detailed information.

The descriptions of the lands to be sold are about ready to be placed and sealed bids are to be submitted to the commission at Olympia. The timber is to be sold in tracts of from 40 to 100 acres and will be disposed of as described in the notices of sale.

