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FIRE CLIMBING TO NOB HILL

Threatens Fairmount Hotel and Apparently Cannot Be Checked.

WATER SUPPLY GONE DYNAMITE INEFFECTIVE

More Than One Thousand in Hospitals and No Accurate Record of Dead Can Be Had—Disaster Minimized, Rather Than Exaggerated.

(Journal Special Service.) Oakland, Cal., April 19.—At 11 o'clock this morning San Francisco is a mass of ruins and the flames continue the work of destruction, obliterating the few remaining habitations. There is no water and the city seems doomed. All night the heavens were lighted by the light of the vast conflagration. This morning a mass of smoke marks the continuation of the destruction amid scenes of un-speakable horror. The estimated loss in San Francisco will reach from \$150,000,000 to \$200,000,000 in the town.

Downtown everything is in ruins. Not a business house stands. Theaters have crumbled into heaps. Factories and commission houses lie smoldering on their former sites. All of the newspaper plants are rendered useless. The Call and Examiner and Daily News buildings were entirely destroyed and the Chronicle, Post and Bulletin buildings wrecked. The offices of both the Associated Press and Scripps News Association are gone.

The limits of the fire at this hour are Nineteenth street on the west, Townsend street on the south and Broadway. Everything between these streets and the waterfront is devastated.

The fire is approaching the new \$5,000,000 Fairmount hotel on Nob Hill, and threatening the Nob Hill district. On the south, at Third and Townsend, a business house is being destroyed.

The fire is spreading at all boundaries, except west of the waterfront. The dynamiting continues.

Death and destruction has been the fate of San Francisco. The city is a mass of smoldering ruins. At 6 o'clock last evening the flames seemingly played with increased vigor and threatened to destroy such sections as their fury had spared.

In San Francisco the main loss will, after all, be due to fire that could not be controlled. It was, and is, a terrible situation—a great city burning and no means, by water or otherwise, of fighting the conquering and mastering flames.

Paris is recalled by this awful holocaust of San Francisco.

THE PRIMARIES TOMORROW.

TOMORROW every legal voter has a duty to perform—to go and vote. And he should vote for what he honestly considers the best men of his party, and the contest between the parties will be fought out in June.

If the voters of both and all parties put forward good, dependable, intelligent, inflexible, uncorruptible men, it will not make much difference to the people which party or candidates win. The party really amounts to little; the nature and character of the service rendered is of much consequence.

As to Democratic candidates, except in one instance, there is no contest, and in this case, that of sheriff, the Journal has plainly expressed itself in favor of the renomination of Sheriff Word, and given its reasons therefor.

The Republicans being normally in a large majority, the interest of the primary election tomorrow naturally centers mostly around them.

Perform the duty of voting tomorrow, and do it well. The most important duty is always the nearest one, and this one is now up to you.

A FEW WORDS OF ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

ONE of the most amazing features of the frightful fate that befel San Francisco is the superb way the newsgatherers came to the rescue and, overcoming almost insuperable difficulties, got out to the world adequate accounts of the tragic progress of the earthquake and the devastating fires that followed in its wake. Hand in hand with the newsgatherers were the telegraph managers and operators who overcame the most appalling difficulties, remaining at their posts until the very buildings were collapsing, moving from station to station into temporary quarters until they were again routed out by fire or dynamite but always, somehow or somewhere, getting out to the world news of the progress of events.

The news headquarters of The Journal in San Francisco went up in flames early in the morning, followed by the central offices of the telegraph companies. And so throughout the day it was a struggle under difficulties to reach points of vantage from which might come forth the news for which the people thirsted. But in looking back and measuring the results without reference to the difficulties The Journal feels it is entitled to accept the warm encomiums which have been showered upon it from all sides. Its first edition was not only superbly illustrated, giving exquisite views of the great buildings and thoroughfares of San Francisco, but a complete and connected story such as no other paper afforded. It was full of details, not generalizations, utterly without hysterics, and making such a presentation of the news, incidents, facts, figures and comparisons as could not fail to have been eminently satisfying to all our readers.

While all this is true we nevertheless wish to express our grateful appreciation to readers and friends for the kind and flattering words which have showered upon The Journal.

A WORD OF HOPE.

IT IS A STOUT HEART that can waken after a catastrophe like that which has befallen San Francisco and, looking upon the desolation, face the future with hopefulness. And yet, one of the remarkable characteristics of our people, and of most of the better peoples of the world, is that there are many men in every community with hearts stout enough for this. Men for this they will not be wanting in San Francisco. They are the city's stay and hope, as they are any community's pride and glory.

The men of hope in San Francisco will have important allies. The times are favorable. It is at the opening of the building season and the country is unusually prosperous. The very prosperity of the times may give the ambitious man of business a pang of regret, when he sees the opportunity but feels his present inability to avail himself of it. The times are good, but the business they bring is not for him. This is but a first thought. The prosperity of the country is a valuable asset at this time, when most of his assets seem to have been wiped out. It is a fund that he may draw upon to restore his plant, knowing well that when he is again ready for business, the commercial world will be at his door with its offers of trade.

Then, too, every San Franciscan, business man, professional man, or artisan, had an asset of immense value in the city's situation. The situation has largely made San Francisco, and it will make it again. Long before the forty-niners came Andrew Jackson and Daniel Webster saw a great commercial city on San Francisco bay, and strove to make it America's. Nothing but a series of disasters that should break up and destroy this situation, peninsula shore-plains and bay could rob the people of San Francisco of the inestimable riches they have simply in the city's situation. Like Chicago, San Francisco must speedily rise from its ruins. The whole country needs it. The commerce of the world demands a city just there, and is waiting to aid in its restoration.

THE CATASTROPHE OF CALIFORNIA.

THE LOSS OF LIFE in the terrible catastrophe that is occurring in California is small as compared with that of many similar convulsions in the past, when people were less able to protect themselves and when they were huddled more closely together. Hundreds of thousands, perhaps millions, of lives have been destroyed directly and most of them almost instantly by these seismic convulsions. Nobody knows and the historian, the geologist and the antiquary cannot discover how many perished at the foot of small but terrible Vesuvius over 1800 years ago, nor at and around Antioch a few years later, nor in Constantinople about 1400 years ago, nor in many instances throughout the Mediterranean region. It is estimated that 40,000 people of Naples perished from the terror of the internal earth in 1456, 30,000 in Lisbon in 1531, 70,000 more in Naples in 1628—and other hundreds of thousands some centuries ago along the sweet, vine-clad shores of Italy and on the Sicilian isles.

In Japan hundreds of thousands have thus been killed—200,000 or more in Jeddó in one eruption a little over 200 years ago; and there have been frequent and destructive eruptions in those oriental islands in later years.

Various portions of South America, on both coasts, have suffered from earthquakes involving the loss of tens of thousands of lives. In 1902 the sudden and awful outburst of Pelee killed 40,000 people.

In California the loss of life, awful as it is, has not been and probably will not be very great, as compared with that of past earthquakes and eruptions, but the property loss is greater than in any other case. Already it runs into the hundreds of millions. No such loss of property within the same space of time has ever occurred. It is a terrible thing to contemplate, but it must be endured, and when the devastating forces have done their work, and perhaps go to rest again for a thousand years, the work of reconstruction and rehabilitation must go on.

This is the worst calamity of the kind that has ever occurred in this country. The only one approaching it was that at Charleston in 1886, yet in that catastrophe the loss of life was small and the property loss was probably not one tenth what it is already in California.

Probably when this disturbance is over a recurrence of it will not happen for hundreds, perhaps thousands of years. Yet as to this no one can tell. These seismic disturbances, it is to be noticed, always occur along a coast line, rarely far in the interior. Yet men must live and labor and love and do business along coasts. It is a necessity, and they must take the chance of earthquake.

In San Francisco the main loss will, after all, be due to fire that could not be controlled. It was, and is, a terrible situation—a great city burning and no means, by water or otherwise, of fighting the conquering and mastering flames. Zola's description of the destruction of Paris is recalled by this awful holocaust of San Francisco.

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DEVASTATED AREA IS INCREASING

Fire Extends From Mercantile to Residence Districts of San Francisco.

(Journal Special Service.) Oakland, April 19.—8 a. m.—The fire is increasing in violence. Its area is greater and it has extended from the mercantile section to the residence districts. While blowing up a building with dynamite a premature explosion occurred, killing 15 men.

The Terminal hotel on the waterfront collapsed, burying 20; they were burned to death, no evidences remaining. The latest reports from the fire chief are to the effect that the mint is ablaze and that it will be impossible to save it, and that the district including Market street south to the waterfront and Mission street is destroyed in its entirety.

Fire is raging over a district of eight square miles with flames spreading in all directions with apparently no show of their being brought under control until they spend their fury. The scene beggars description. A few minutes past 7 o'clock last night another shock was felt, rocking a number of buildings.

Pandemonium reigns and people are huddled in the streets fearing further shocks.

From near the ferry building up Market to the Mission district, containing the finest of San Francisco's business blocks, the Call, Chronicle, Examiner,

Mills, postoffice, Exchange, Flood, Monachok, Palace hotel and numerous other skyscrapers burned. There was a shortage of dynamite, with which to check the flames. The situation was a terrible one. All efforts to stop the progress of the fire apparently are futile.

Burned Buildings. The ferry and train service were blocked. The heat is intense. Following is an incomplete list of the buildings destroyed or injured, according to latest reports:

Call building, entirely destroyed; Spreckels building gutted by flames; Hearst building collapsed; new Chronicle building slightly damaged; the White House walls badly cracked, plate-glass windows broken, stock in building removed before 9:30 a. m.; Winchester hotel, Third street, totally destroyed by the earthquake shock; Grand opera-house entirely destroyed; Claus Spreckels' house and stables, Van Ness avenue, badly damaged; St. Luke's Episcopal church, Van Ness avenue, damaged, will have to be pulled down; Mechanic's library building; Post street building slightly injured; Lick house totally destroyed; Checker building, Market and Post streets, slightly damaged; Upham building, Pine and Battery, totally destroyed, loss \$550,000; California hotel, Bush street, upper stories collapsed; Pacific Union club, Post and Stockton streets, front injured and fissures in rear wall.

St. Dominic's church, in Pierce street, is a total loss, the interior being wrecked, including the fixtures on the walls. The structure will have to be pulled down. The parochial house in the same block is a partial wreck. It is estimated that the loss to the parish is \$300,000.

The ornamental top on St. Dunstan's

SANTA ROSA LIES IN RUINS

Ten Thousand People Homeless—What Earthquake Left Fire Destroyed.

(Journal Special Service.) Santa Rosa, Cal., April 19.—This city is a total wreck, with 10,000 homeless men, women and children huddled together. The loss of life will probably reach into the hundreds. The business portion of the town is tumbled into ruins and the main street is piled many feet deep with fallen buildings. Not one of the business buildings, from the California Northwestern Pacific depot in the extreme west to the Alhambra on the east, was left intact. The destruction includes all the county buildings. What was not destroyed by the earthquake was swept by fire.

The water system was destroyed by the earthquake, and fire-fighting was out of the question. The citizens abandoned their homes and took to the hills, gazing in despair at the scene of destruction.

Such a night has never before been experienced by the people of any American city. Brave men lay upon the bare earth, weeping like children. Men who were rich 24 hours before.

apartment house at Sutter street and Van Ness avenue fell into the street. The Concordia building on Van Ness avenue, has several fissures in the side and rebuilding will be necessary. The Hotel Grindino is badly damaged. The stone coping about the roof having fallen off. The building in course of construction to be occupied by the Hammen baths on Post street will have to be rebuilt. The firehouse adjoining the California hotel on Bush street is damaged. Chief Sullivan and his wife, who were sleeping in the engine-house, were severely bruised by bricks crashing through the roof from the hotel.

LOCAL PRINTERS HELP FELLOWS IN BAY CITY

Local printers have offered assistance to the members of the craft in the stricken city and are awaiting some word from the south in order to learn just what method is best to proceed with the relief work. The following telegram was sent to San Francisco last night:

"To George Tracy, President of the San Francisco Typographical Union No. 21: Multinomial No. 58 extends sympathy and the funds in its treasury to afflicted brethren. Let me know. 'J. J. PRICE, President.'"

Read The Sunday Journal It Is Full of Good Features

An article this Sunday will tell you how far you live above the level of the sea. The bears in the City Park talk to the children in the Sunday Journal; read these animal stories to the little ones, also let them laugh over the comic colored pictures. Get The Sunday Journal. You will enjoy every line.

Looking Down Market Street, San Jose, From City Park. Postoffice and St. Joseph's Cathedral in Foreground.

who are penniless now, roamed the streets side by side with despairing laborers. The scenes in the parks and open spaces where there was room for people to congregate without molestation from the soldiers are such that beggar description. Terror kept those who still have homes in the open. It was like a city watching its own destruction.

Throughout the night United States troops patrolled the districts under martial law. In all the city these disciplined men were the only ones not overcome with the horror of the night. They faced their duty bravely, carrying out the orders of their superiors with quiet determination greatly in contrast with the actions of the people. But for these men it is probable that the horror would have been greater than it was.

At 3 o'clock this morning almost every building in the vicinity of Union square was ablaze. The magnificent St. Francis hotel, facing the square, appeared doomed. Thousands slept in parks and other open places last night. The Southern Pacific to the south is out at San Mateo, 20 miles south, cutting off the most natural way of escape in that direction, leaving the only means of egress by vehicles and foot.

Martial Law in Oakland. Governor Pardee arrived in Oakland last night and issued a proclamation declaring a legal holiday in the state, in order to give the people an opportunity to aid the sufferers. Martial law was declared in Oakland this morning. Troops are patrolling the streets, and only those with passes are allowed in the main section. People are in danger from falling buildings, many of which are tottering.

Thousands of people on this side of the bay slept in open lots and on the hills, fearing another shake. The city is filled with refugees fleeing to safety or seeking friends. The parks were filled last night with people from across the bay. Many are without friends or money. Systematic aid is being organized. Telegrams of sympathy are coming by the hundreds from all parts of the globe.

On every side there was death and suffering yesterday. Hundreds were injured, either burned, crushed or struck by falling pieces from buildings, and many died while on the operating table at Mechanic's pavilion, improvised as a hospital. The number of dead is not known, but it is estimated that at least 500 met death in the horror.

Thieves Shot Down. At 9 o'clock last night, under special message from President Roosevelt, the city was placed under martial law. Hundreds of troops patrolled the streets and drove the crowds back, while hundreds were set to work assisting firemen and soldiers. Soldiers are carrying out their orders in true military spirit. Three thieves met death by rifle bullets while at work in the ruins. Cavalrymen forced the people from the level district to the hilly section beyond to the north.

The water supply was entirely cut off early in the morning, and it was seen that the only possible chance to save the city lay in the use of dynamite. During the day blasts could be heard in every section at intervals of only a few minutes, and buildings not destroyed by fire were blown to atoms. But through the gaps made by the explosive the flames jumped, while men worked like fiends to combat the roaring, uncrushing fire.

At 11 o'clock last night the Occidental hotel was destroyed by flames, which swept unchecked across Montgomery street and attacked the block bounded by Montgomery, Sutter, Bush and Kearney streets. The new Merchants' Exchange building was a mass of flames from basement to tower.

The Union Trust building and the Crocker-Woolworth bank both burned and the Chronicle building and the other

buildings in that block were threatened by flames. Shortly after 10 o'clock fire had eaten its way southward from Portsmouth square to Kearney and California streets. The entire section fronting on the west side of Kearney street is a mass of flames.

All buildings adjoining the Hall of Justice were ablaze and the firemen striving to save the structure by using dynamite.

At that hour the flames had eaten their way westward in the residence section as far as Gough street. There, by dynamiting block after block, the firemen succeeded in checking the fire for a time.

Conditions are growing worse every minute. The city is a mass of ruins. Dynamite is being used freely in an endeavor to save part of the city. Water mains are useless. No water supply is at hand. One hundred and fifty of the greatest buildings have been destroyed in addition to 20,000 others. The waterfront is still smoldering. The ferry San Pablo was hit by a heavy steel girder and sunk. Many of the crew are said to have gone down.

Fire swept the Mission district, leveling the homes of 50,000 in this one section alone.

Emporium Burned. The Emporium, the city's biggest department store, on Market street, is a mass of ruins.

Late yesterday afternoon buildings in the vicinity of the United States mint and postoffice were blown up in the hope of saving these. The effort proved useless and the magnificent structures, including the city hall, fell before the onrushing flames. At 9 o'clock last night the Bailey and Leach building, on Clay street, fell in, killing three men and seven horses.

The magnificent church and college of St. Ignace, at the northwest corner of Van Ness avenue and Hayes street, was destroyed. The loss is over \$1,000,000. The church contained paintings and frescoes that were priceless.

From present appearances it is probable that 30 or more insurance companies will be saving. Managers of the larger companies are of the opinion that they will be able to meet the losses. In any event, all insurance companies doing business in this city have been hit by a staggering blow, from the effects of which many will never recover.

The Oakland Realty syndicate has offered Idora park for the use of those left without shelter by the earthquake. The offer has been accepted by the police and fire commissioners and 200 coats have been placed in it for the use of the refugees. Relief stations have been established at the city hall and at various public parks and churches.

Mayor Frank K. Mojt has issued an appeal to the people of Oakland and authorities to aid in preserving peace and keeping order.

Thousands gathered their few household goods they had saved and fled in terror. Thousands more fled without taking anything, glad to escape. San Bruno road and other avenues of egress to the southward are packed with pedestrians, plodding along, with no other idea than to get away—to get away from the horrors behind them. Ferrymen for Oakland carried thousands also and before they resumed operations yesterday afternoon tugboats and launches plied back and forth, carrying the terrified people across the bay.

Each hour brings tales of fresh casualties of people mangled by the earthquake of yesterday morning; of people crushed in the streets by falling material, and of people burned to death before they escaped from the flames. Some still lie in the streets where they fell.

People Moving Away. Most of the population of the city is too busy getting away to be scrupulous about removing the dead. Those who are fighting manfully against the flames have no time. Those engaged in hu-

manitarian work have their hands full. Doctors and nurses by the score have proffered their services and all are needed.

Troops and police line the streets, forming a cordon about the danger zone. They are compelled to draw back occasionally and extend their lines as the fire spreads. Strict watch is being kept on bank buildings and other places where treasure is stored, that are still standing, to prevent looting.

At an early hour flammable goods broke into the stores and robbed them, the proprietors being either dead or driven out. They circulated through the streets, picking the pockets of the panic-stricken crowds. Several were shot and killed by soldiers, who gave no quarter when they discovered the wretches at work. The example was a sufficient one, for last night lawlessness subsided to some extent, although the panic was greater, if anything.

Thousands in Hospitals. Over 1,000 persons who were seriously injured by the earthquake and fire are being treated at the various hospitals throughout the city. The proportion of dead is not as large as might be expected. Only 23 of those admitted to the hospitals have died since their admission.

While the earthquake was at its height two smokestacks at the foot of Grove street fell through the roof, crushing the boiler and killing one fireman.

The force of the earthquake struck the Twelfth street dam, opposite the bathhouses on Lake Meron, to sink 13 inches.

The people of Oakland are rendering every assistance in their power to the fugitives who arrive here. The mayor has issued an order for the closing of all saloons and a strong effort is being made to preserve order here. The ferry houses have been roped off and a heavy guard of police is at hand to prevent any undue advantage being taken of the refugees.

The magnitude of the horror is not exaggerated. It will require days to arrive at a definite estimate of the loss of life.

CITY OF SAN JOSE MASS OF RUINS

Hundred and Fifty Reported Killed and Hospitals Crowded With Dead and Dying.

(Journal Special Service.) San Jose, April 19.—One hundred and fifty persons are reported killed in this city. The entire business portion of the town bordered by St. James on the north, Market on the west, Third street on the east and San Fernando on the south is a complete mass of ruins. The city is under martial law, the streets are patrolled by soldiers, and no one is allowed to leave their homes until this morning. All hospitals are crowded with dead and dying. The work of the rescuers is being carried on by appointed workers. Trenches have been dug in the city, and the Standard Electric plant is badly demolished and the city is in darkness.

The property loss will reach far into the millions of dollars. The buildings either badly damaged or razed are the courthouse, hall of records, St. James hotel, Annex of Vendome, in which 20 guests are reported to have been crushed to death. Eagles hall, postoffice, the Real building, Dougherty block, St. Patrick's church, Safe Deposit, National and Bank of San Jose buildings.

A report from the Agnew state insane asylum, six miles from this city, states that 150 inmates were killed by the collapsing of half of the main structure. Many are reported missing.

A lodging-house near the railroad yard collapsed and eight bodies have already been removed and more are supposed to be in the ruins.

In the collapse of the Vendome hotel Thomas O'Toole, a wealthy rancher, was one of the number killed. The San Jose High School of Justice, just completed at a cost of \$200,000, is a scrap heap. The Presbyterian church, the courthouse and part of the State Normal school have been destroyed.

COUNCILMEN CONTRIBUTE SALARIES TO SUFFERERS

Members of the city council last night agreed to donate their salaries for one month to a fund to be raised for the relief of the San Francisco sufferers, amounting to a total of \$475. It was remarked that this money would purchase 10,000 loaves of bread.

Resolutions were adopted expressing sympathy for the people of San Francisco in their suffering and offering any relief which they could give.

REMEMBERS EARTHQUAKE OF FORTY YEARS AGO

Charles A. Phelps, president of the Phelps Manufacturing company of Weiser, Idaho, was a resident of San Francisco when the great earthquake of 1862 occurred. He is now in Portland and says that he remembers the former disturbance quite distinctly, though he was young when it occurred.

"There weren't many very large buildings in the city at that time," he said, "but many of the largest collapsed. From where Montgomery street is now, clear down to the bay, the earth sank to the level of the bay. There was another disturbance in 1871, but it was not so violent."

Stanford Memorial Church, One of the Most Beautiful Buildings in the World, Reported Destroyed.