

MANY PERISH IN EARTHQUAKE

THE MOST TERRIBLE DISASTER
IN HISTORY OCCURS IN
SOUTHERN ITALY.

\$0,000 REPORTED LOST

In Messina 12,000 Perish in Earthquake and Tsunami—King and Queen Go to Safety

Rome, Dec. 25.—(Special to the Times)—Twelve thousand perished in the earthquake and tsunami which struck Sicily, and King and Queen are reported safe. The King's report of safety will not be known for some time. The King and Queen are staying in safety in Rome in spite of the most complete destruction of lines of communication to the south at places.

The death toll in Sicily ranges from 12,000 to 15,000, and in Reggio, which with its adjacent villages numbered 100,000, includes almost the entire population. At Palermo, 40,000 are reported lost; at Catania, 10,000; at Cefalu, 1,000, and last the population of Bagheria, about 30,000.

King and Queen in Safety

The King and Queen of Italy are now on their way to Sicily, having sailed Tuesday evening from Naples aboard the luxury liner *Giuseppe Garibaldi*. The pope has shown the greatest distress at the calamity and he himself was the first to make a statement in the name of the affected British, French and Spanish warships are steaming towards



VICTOR EMANUEL III OF ITALY.

the south and already several of the ships of Great Britain and Russia have entered Sicilian ports in the work of rescue.

It is feared that many passengers have been killed, as a number of boats at Reggio and elsewhere all other places were crushed with mass.

Safety by Rail Way

Russia, whose tragic history has been matched by little worse and may well be the author of another terrible disaster, was spared to date. The West Bank of Germany, the city's destruction and to burn with much greater loss than expected because of the fire. The Strait of Messina, the shipping and railroad of the surrounding mountains, the mines near the coast and the United States, without regard to range.

ORCHARD TO TESTIFY

His Evidence May Bring About Return of \$10,000 to Gas Company.

San Francisco, Dec. 25.—By a ruling of the supreme court, the issuance of a commission was granted, authorizing the taking of the deposition of Harry Orchard, self-confessed slayer of the late Governor Spreckels, of Idaho, as to the circumstances surrounding the explosion in his home on November 17, 1904, in the house of W. H. Linke, then thought to have been caused by a leak in the gas main, but which resulted from the firing of a dynamite bomb, according to statements made by Orchard's confessor.

The purpose of the commission is to receive \$10,000 paid to Linke for damages done his house on the finding of a罪人. Orchard, who is serving a life sentence in Idaho, stated that he blew up the Linke house in an attempt to kill Captain Beale, who then resided there.

Stockholders Complain

Grangemouth, Nth., Dec. 25.—The action of the Northern Pacific in refusing to accept shipments of stock over the new Grangemouth line is causing great inconvenience to stock shippers. A number of buyers have been sending and buying cattle and hogs with a view of shipping out on the new line. An effort is being made to have the road suspend the order and receive shipments in January.

The only reason given by the officials of the road is that the cattle ship the cars and cause the newly-ballasted carriageway to shift. Stock shippers assert that the ruling is unfair to them, as all other freight is accepted. Several large shipments are to leave about the first of the year.

Street Ships Off Sea

San Fran., Dec. 25.—The American battleship fleet under Rear-Admiral Speer, passed Pearl Harbor on the 20th. Sea is now. During the 20th on board the fleet are well. The vessels are due here the morning of January 2.

It is expected that they will make a rapid passage through the canal and then will disperse to the various Mediterranean ports, according to their itinerary, with the east passing later. Christmas was fittingly observed in board the 14 vessels of the fleet.

Change in German Postal Rates.

New York, Dec. 25.—From today on the postal rate on letters between the United States and the German empire will be 2 cents. This rate applies only to letters carried on vessels sailing direct between American and German ports and not to those that are trans-shipped or via way of other countries. Agitation has been started to make the new rate applicable to all others between Germany and the United States, without regard to range.

Domestic Negroes of Asia.

Bangkok, Siam, Dec. 25.—Several of the leading Negroes of Thailand, who have for the purpose of preparing a bill to be introduced in the legislature next week to discriminate in wages. Governor Shukla was represented by J. E. Wright, of Bangalore.

Gold and gold when melted together may be mixed in various proportions and formed or crystallized. Alloys containing 10 per cent of gold are harder than pure gold, but as the proportion of gold increases above that amount the alloy becomes softer. Silver and gold do not form alloys.

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EVENTS IN 1908

Notable Occurrences the World Over.

CRIMES IN GOVERNMENT.

A Carefully Classified Summary of Affairs at Home and Abroad—Miscellaneous Happenings—Fatal Explosions on Land and Sea—Losses by Fire—The Field of Sports.

POLITICAL AND PERSONAL

Government.

1. Metal shield proclaimed valid of Mexico at Pan.

2. Prince Umberto married to Countess Luisa of Savoia in New York City.

3. King Carlos of Portugal and the seven prince Duke Filipe assassinated at Lisbon.

4. Manuel, second son of the assassinated monarch, proclaimed King as Manuel II of Portugal.

5. Several Italian revolutionaries shot to death by Spanish agents.

6. In the absence of the power President again issued several revolutionary proclamations to save itself.

7. Thomas E. Watson of Georgia nominated president by the Populist party at St. Louis.

8. Sir George Campbell-Bannerman, prime minister of England, resigned.

9. Robert S. Lovett appointed prime minister of England by King Edward VII.

10. Cardinal Lavigerie, head of the Roman Catholic church in France, arrived in New York to participate in the celebration of the New Year's observance.

11. Manuel, the boy king of Portugal, formally received with the royal crown and the royal colors of the realm.

12. Rear Admiral Bailey C. Brown re-appointed commander of the Asiatic Fleet.

13. The Socialist party nominated Eugene V. Debs and Benjamin Hanmer at Chicago.

14. The emergency currency bill signed by the president. Congress adjourned.

15. King Edward VII of England and Emperor Nicholas II of Russia met at an official conference at Rovaniemi.

16. Gen. Clement A. Edwards of Georgia re-appointed in chief of the United Confederate Veterans.

17. W. H. Taft nominated for president at the Republican convention in Chicago.

18. Persian parliament overthrown by force for retaining the demands of the road.

19. New parliament ordered in Persia and general amnesty proclaimed.

20. Secretary of War W. H. Taft removed, and was succeeded by Gen. John S. Wright.

21. Diplomatic relations severed between the United States and Venezuela.

22. William Jennings Bryan nominated for the vice presidency by the Democratic convention at Denver.

23. Quinta elected president of Panama.

24. Eugene V. Debs and Aaron S. Ward nominated for president and vice-president by the Socialists convention at Columbus, O.

25. The Prince of Wales landed at Liverpool to attend the centenary cele-

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26. Chester Hastings, Jr., of San Francisco, won the Society of Japan.

27. Reuben H. Fleet chairman of

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John S. Clark
Geo. W. Hayes
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W. H. Holmes

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Price for
Hides and Skins
PRIDE & FAMILY
PROPRIETORS

INDEPENDENT
PHONE 29

INDEPENDENT
PHONE 29

business.

2. Constitutional government restored in Turkey.

3. Thomas L. Hagan and John Temple Graves nominated for president and vice-president by the Independence convention at Chicago.

4. Rear Admiral Stanley D. Evans, U. S. N., placed on the retired list having reached the age limit of 62 years.

5. The Hague arbitration treaty adopted by the Belgian chamber of deputies.

6. Royal Saudi, proprietor of the throne of Morocco, proclaimed Sultan of Africa and the Sultan of several states.

7. Col. Henry M. Nease elected commanding chief of the U. S. A. in Manila.

8. Bulgaria declared independence of Turkey by Prince Ferdinand, who proclaimed himself "Tsar of the Bulgarians."

9. America annexed the nominally Turkish provinces of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the territory of the empire.

10. The national election resulted in the choice of W. H. Taft, Popular vote, 5,875,754; Democratic, 5,675,754; Republican, 4,642,750; Prohibition, 31,216. Independence League, 1,000; People's Party, 1,000; Socialist Labor, 1,000; and No Ballot, 1,000.

11. Death of Kwang-Soo, emperor of China, announced at Peking.

12. Gen. Jose Miguel Gomez elected president of Cuba by the liberators.

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