

# BAY CITY IS IN RUINS

## Earthquake Visits San Francisco

### THOUSAND DEAD

### Fire Follows Shock and Adds to Panic

### NO WATER SUPPLY

### Mains are Broken and Firemen Fight Flames With Dynamite—All Business Section Is Gone.

The dreadful earthquake shock came without warning at precisely 5:13 o'clock this morning, its motion apparently being from east to west. At first the upheaval of the earth was gradual, but in a few seconds it increased in intensity. Chimneys began to fall and buildings to crack, tottering on their foundations. People became panic stricken and rushed into the streets, most of them in their night attire. They were met by showers of falling buildings, bricks, cornices and walls. Many were instantly crushed to death; while others were dreadfully mangled. Those who remained indoors generally escaped with their lives, though scores were hit by detached plaster, pictures and articles thrown to the floor by the shock. It is believed that more or less loss was sustained by nearly every family in the city.

Telegraph and telephone communication was shut off for a time. The Western Union was put completely out of business, and the Postal company was the only one that managed to get a wire out of the city. About 10 o'clock even the Postal was forced to suspend in San Francisco. Electric power was stopped and street cars did not run. Railroads and ferry boats also ceased operations.

Today's experience has been a testimonial to the modern steel building. A score of these structures were in course of erection, and not one of these suffered. The completed modern buildings were also immune from harm by earthquake. The buildings that collapsed were all flimsy wooden and old-fashioned brick structures.

The burned district extends from the water front south of Market street to Mission street and west to Eleventh street. The fire extends out Hayes and McAllister streets nearly to Fillmore, and from the water front along Market to Montgomery and north from the water front to New Montgomery street. Manufactories, hotels, wholesale houses and residences, comprising the principal part of the business section, have been destroyed. The city hall, a structure costing \$7,000,000, was first wrecked by the earthquake and then destroyed by fire. The Palace hotel, valued at \$3,000,000, also was burned. The beautiful Claus Spreckels building at Third and Market streets was gutted. The Rialto building and dozens of other costly structures were also destroyed. The Hall of Justice is threatened, and will undoubtedly go. The Examiner and Call buildings are gone and the Crocker building, across the street from the Palace hotel, is on fire.

The freaks of the earthquake were many. Wide fissures were made in the streets, street railways were twisted out of line, sewers and water pipes were burst, and it is feared that there will be an epidemic of disease. Provisions are being sold at fancy prices, and even water is being vendied by the glass.

It is impossible to give a list of the dead and wounded, or even a list of the principal buildings destroyed.

**OUTSIDE SAN FRANCISCO.**

**Many Towns Ruined by Earthquake and Hundreds of Lives Lost.**

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 on the east and San Fernando on the south is a complete mass of ruins. The city is under martial law, the streets are being patrolled by troops. All hospitals are crowded with dead and dying. The electric plant is badly demolished and the city is in darkness.

San Francisco, April 19.—Reports from the interior are most alarming. Santa Rosa, one of the most beautiful cities in the state, in the prosperous county of Sonoma, is a total wreck. There are 10,000 homeless men, women and children, huddled together. The loss of life is not to be estimated. It will probably reach the thousands. The main street is piled many feet deep with the fallen buildings. Not one business block is left intact. This destruction includes all the county buildings. Nothing is left. What was not destroyed by the earthquake was swept by fire.

Messengers bring the saddest tidings from Healdsburg, Geyserville, Cloverdale, Ukiah and other places. In every case the loss of life and property is as shocking as here.

Oakland, April 18.—Reports from districts outside of San Francisco indicate widespread damage. San Jose, 50 miles south, lost many buildings and from 15 to 20 people killed. The annex of the Vendome hotel collapsed and free broke out.

Stanford university and Palo Alto suffered. At Stanford, many handsome buildings were demolished and two people were killed. Six other students are lying in the Palo Alto hospital with bruises, cuts and internal injuries.

The courthouse at Redwood City and other buildings collapsed. Menlo Park, Burlingame and other fashionable suburbs suffered. Santa Rosa, to the north, Napa, Vallejo and all towns around the bay were damaged.

**Thieves Shot Dead on Sight.**

San Francisco, April 19.—The city is under martial law, and precautions have been taken to prevent disorder and looting. Four thieves were shot by soldiers this afternoon for looting. The soldiers have orders to shoot without warning any persons acting in a suspicious manner. At Eighteenth and Valencia there is a crevice in the street six feet wide and entire sidewalks are torn up. The street car tracks are twisted and traffic is at a standstill.

### DESTRUCTION GROWS HOURLY.

### Firemen Blow Up Buildings—Frantic People Flee for Safety.

San Francisco, April 19.—With each succeeding hour the devastation and destruction in this stricken and prostrate ruin of a city grows and grows. At 6 o'clock tonight it seemed as if nothing could save the comparatively small portion of the city that yet remains unburned. The entire business and wholesale district is now only a glowing furnace, while the giant tongues of flame have reached westward far beyond Van Ness avenue and are wiping out buildings and seeking more to devour.

In every excavation and hole throughout the north beach householders are burying household effects, throwing them into the ditches and covering the holes. Attempts are made to mark the graves of the property so that it can be recovered after the flames are appeased.

Chief of Police Dinan said he thought 250 would fully cover the number of deaths. He found it impossible to secure details. About 50 bodies have thus far been found.

There was much shooting of looters today, but the offenders were fortunate enough to escape with wounds.

There is a great shortage of the bread supply in the city. This afternoon, after a panic at the California-street bakery, the police took possession of the premises and it will be operated under municipal control. At this place men battled with women and children in their efforts to each seize four and five loaves of bread. The police used their clubs for the purpose of bringing about an equitable distribution of the loaves.

### BLAZE LIGHTS MIDNIGHT SKY.

Conflagration Seen From Oakland Appears Unchecked.

Oakland, Cal., April 19.—(Midnight)—At this hour the light from burning San Francisco does not appear to have diminished, and is almost, if not quite, as brilliant as last night. Although the flames have swept their way three miles westward from the water front, the entire sky is illuminated by the glare of the unchecked conflagration. There is no wind and only the faintest suspicion of a breeze here tonight, but it is said there is a stiff breeze blowing over San Francisco.

A gigantic column of smoke hangs over the desolated city, the apex forming fantastic shapes thousands of feet in the air and slowly drifting away to the northward.

Although telegraphic communication was established this evening with the Ferry building on the San Francisco side, only a very limited amount of matter could be handled. The telegraph company would receive but a few hundred words of press matter, giving the wires over to pressing commercial business. It is believed that by tomorrow morning additional facilities will be had.

The telegraph companies are completely swamped by the enormous volume of messages reaching here, as well as the crush of business filed for the outside world. It is unlikely there will be any further news matter from San Francisco before morning.

**Money Shows In.**

The following list shows how the cities of the United States are responding to San Francisco's urgent need of help: Los Angeles, \$200,000; Salt Lake, \$100,000; Sacramento, \$50,000; Portland, \$100,000; Indianapolis, \$10,000; Spokane, \$5,000; Stockton, \$20,000; Seattle, \$40,000; Pittsburg, \$50,000; Omaha, \$10,000; Goldfield, Nev., \$10,000; Tacoma, \$10,000; Eugene, \$2,000.

Besides these John D. Rockefeller has given \$100,000; Clarence H. Mackay, \$100,000, and the Andrew Carnegie hero fund, \$25,000. There are also thousands of telegrams pouring into San Francisco from all parts of the United States telling of funds being raised.

**Find Shelter at Berkeley.**

Berkeley, Cal., April 19.—Tonight Berkeley is packed with over 1,000 refugees who have been brought across the bay to escape the horrors of the San Francisco conflagration. The homeless and hungry are fed at the station from long benches provided by the citizens' relief committee, which includes representatives of all the fraternal and religious organizations in town. The women students and professors of the State university are doing great work for the sufferers, and tonight are finding shelter for all.

**War Department is Prompt.**

Washington, April 19.—Prompt action has been taken by the War Department in extending to the earthquake sufferers of San Francisco all available resources to relieve want and to provide shelter. Two hundred thousand rations have been directed to be sent from Vancouver barracks to San Francisco, and a large number of tents from Vancouver and other military posts. The supplies will be forwarded with all the expedition possible.

**Treasure at Mint is Safe.**

Washington, April 19.—The United States mint at San Francisco escaped serious damage from the earthquake and the conflagration. Its stock of gold, silver and bullion, amounting to about \$39,000,000, is safe.

### FIRE STILL BURNING

### But Has Lost Its Fury and Is Now Slowly Dying Out.

### NATION COMING NOBLY TO RELIEF

### Foreign Countries Stand Ready With Help, But Their Aid Will Not Be Needed.

San Francisco, April 20.—Plunged into absolute darkness tonight at 10 o'clock, San Francisco has not seen the conclusion of the devastating work of the conflagration.

The fire that started at Nob Hill and worked its way to the North Beach section, sweeping that section clear of buildings, was later veered around by a fierce wind and made its way southerly to the immense sawmill sheds and grain warehouses. The flames were heading directly for the immense Ferry building, the terminal point of all central overland and local trains of the Southern Pacific road. The darkness and the wind, which at times amounted to a gale, added fresh terrors to the situation.

Tonight the principal remaining fire was confined east of Van Ness avenue and north of Union street, but was burning its way to the shore.

Late this afternoon the police broke open every saloon and corner grocery in the saved districts and poured all malt and spirituous liquors into the gutters.

### HUNDREDS DEAD IN HOTELS.

Over 75 Bodies Taken Out—One Hundred in Cosmopolitan.

San Francisco, April 20.—The three-story lodging house at Fifth and Minna streets collapsed and over 75 dead bodies have been taken out. There are at least 50 more dead bodies exposed. This building was one of the first to take fire on Fifth street.

At least 100 people were lost in the Cosmopolitan hotel on Fourth street.

The only building standing between Mission, Howard, East and Stewart streets is the San Pablo hotel, which is occupied and running. The shot tower at First and Howard streets is gone. This landmark was built 40 years ago. The Risdon Iron works is partially destroyed. The Great Western Smelting and Refining works escaped damage, also the Mutual Electric Light works, with slight damage to the American Rubber company and Vietsgas Engine company. Folger Bros.' Coffee and Spice house is uninjured, and the firm is giving away large quantities of bread and milk.

Many are dropping dead from the heat and from suffocation.

Over 150 people are reported lost in the Brunswick hotel, Seventh and Mission streets.

### NATION TO THE RELIEF.

War Department Assumes Entire Control of Situation.

Associated Press dispatches from every important city in the land indicate that \$12,000,000 in cash is already in sight for the relief of the fire and earthquake sufferers in and about San Francisco, and that a total of \$20,000,000 is likely to be raised. The United States will grapple alone with the situation growing out of the total destruction of one of her richest and most populous cities. Foreign countries, in view of the magnificent responses of the American people to the call for aid, will not be asked to contribute, though numerous offers have been made.

Before the cabinet, at its meeting yesterday, had resolved upon this course, however the Dominion of Canada had taken cognizance of the situation in San Francisco by voting \$100,000 in cash for relief, and dispatches from the seaport cities of British Columbia indicate that they are ignoring the existence of the international boundary line and are joining in the work of forwarding money and provisions with their sister cities on the Pacific coast.

### Ruins Small Companies.

Chicago, April 20.—It was declared last night by Chicago insurance men that many of the small accident and fire companies probably will be forced to suspend business because of their enormous loss in San Francisco. Even some of the bigger companies will be hard pressed. The total amount of liability involved is now placed at more than \$180,000,000 in San Francisco alone. This is considered conservative. Added to the losses in San Francisco will be at least \$50,000,000 to be met in other cities.

### Can't Deliver Telegrams.

San Francisco, April 20.—The delivery of telegraphic messages from outside points to people in San Francisco is impossible. The messenger service of both the big telegraph companies no longer exists. Even had the companies an army of messengers, they would be of little value for the reason that the people are scattered far and wide, and that a journey from the ferry building to the western addition, or to the refuge camps consumes hours.

### Will Build \$5,000,000 Plant.

New York, April 20.—It was announced at the office of M. Guggenheim's Sons today that orders have been issued by that firm to proceed as soon as possible with the construction of a \$5,000,000 smelting plant in San Francisco.

### DEATH LIST LARGE.

Will Probably Exceed Even the First Estimates Made.

San Francisco, April 22.—Now that the extinction of the fire allows of inquiry, it has become known that hundreds, if not thousands, of people lost their lives, either in the collapse of buildings due to the earthquake or in the fire which consumed the ruins in which they were imprisoned alive, but injured and powerless to flee. A merely partial estimate places the total at over 700 in the lodging houses and a few adjoining buildings.

South of Market street the loss of life was chiefly brought about by the collapsing of many cheap lodging houses. Among others, the caving in of the Royal, corner of Fourth and Minna streets, added to the horror of the situation by the shrieks of its many scores of victims embedded in the ruins.

The collapsing of the Portland House, on Sixth street, between Mission and Market, came about in a similar manner. Fully 60 persons were entombed. Many of these were saved before the fire eventually crept to the scene.

The large five-story Ernsrick lodging house with its 300 rooms filled with guests, on the corner of Sixth and Howard streets, collapsed to the ground entirely and fire started amid the ruins scarcely five minutes later. It is estimated that over 300 persons lost their lives in this building.

Part of the large Cosmopolitan house, corner Fifth and Mission streets, collapsed at the very first tremor. Many of the sleepers were buried in the ruins, others escaping in their night clothing.

At 775 Mission street, the Wilson house, with its four stories and 80 rooms, fell to the ground a mass of ruins. As far as known very few of the inmates escaped.

### RESTORING WATER SERVICE.

Within Four Days City Will Have Half Normal Quantity.

San Francisco, April 22.—Experts of the Spring Valley Water company who have been engaged in making a thorough examination of the mains and reservoirs of the system have reported that the company has in its reservoirs enough water to supply the city at the regular rate of 30,000,000 gallons per day for a period of 600 days.

The only immediate problem is that of getting this supply into the city. Already pipes have been repaired in certain sections, and a supply of 7,000,000 gallons per day is coming in through Ocean View from Lake Merrick.

About 1,000,000 gallons of this is being consumed daily by Ocean View and the other towns along the pipe lines, but 6,000,000 gallons daily is reaching and will continue to reach the city proper.

Within a few hours another supply of 6,000,000 gallons daily will be poured into the city from College Hill station. This will furnish water to the southern section of the city. Already water is being supplied to the Black Point and Pacific Heights districts, and with an additional supply of 4,000,000 gallons daily, which is assured from lines that will be repaired within a day or two, the city will within four days be receiving a daily supply of between 16,000,000 and 17,000,000 gallons, which is practically equivalent to half the amount that was being furnished to the entire city prior to the earthquake.

This makes it certain that the city will be habitable again almost immediately. A food supply has already been assured.

### General Mail Service Resumed.

San Francisco, April 22.—Trains have been running on all lines practically on the regular schedule, excepting on the coast line of the Southern Pacific company. Service on that line was resumed today and dispatches will now be made regularly. The first mail from San Francisco for outside points was dispatched yesterday and since that time all regular dispatches have been made, excepting a few of the smaller closed pouch dispatches, which were omitted in order that the postoffice might concentrate the forces upon the heaviest and most important mail.

### Earthquake at Grants Pass.

Grants Pass, Or., April 23.—An earthquake shock which broke some windows and awoke sleeping citizens was felt here at 1:11 this morning. The shock lasted between 15 and 20 seconds and was accompanied by a distinct rumbling noise. The motion of the undulation was from east to west and the oscillation was sufficient to set hanging lamps and pictures to sway. Mayor George Good states that the shock was felt all over his home, which is a structure 75 feet in length and two stories high.

### Docks Still Do Business.

San Francisco, April 22.—South of Market street the loss on the water front proper is comparatively small. Several sheds have been entirely reconstructed and small repairs will have to be made to one or two of the docks, but beyond this the property loss is insignificant. There is nothing to interfere with the unloading of ships and steamers at any of the docks south of the ferry building, save at pier No. 2 of Mission dock.

### Glendale is Badly Shaken.

Glendale, Or., April 23.—A distinct shock of earthquake was felt in this city at 11 minutes after 1 o'clock this morning. The shock was apparently heavier than the one of April 18, causing buildings to rock and rattle.

### SOON REOCCUPY BUILDINGS.

Steel Structures Only Had the Inner Woodwork Burned Out.

San Francisco, April 23.—Today property owners have had an opportunity to inspect some of their holdings, and in a measure to ascertain what damage had been done. The new modern steel buildings were found to be almost intact. In every instance it seemed that the earthquake had not damaged them. The steel frames were in perfect plumb and as strong as ever. Cornices and fancy trimmings fell, but that was all. Even when the fire swept through them, only the woodwork was damaged.

The Fairmount Hotel on Nob Hill will be rushed to completion; the Claus Spreckels building on Market and Third streets will be occupied within a few days. The Union Trust building on Montgomery and Market streets has only lost the interior woodwork, and as soon as men can put in the lumber it will be ready for occupancy. The St. Francis Hotel is in the same category, and the work of renovating the interior will soon be commenced. An inspection of the Call building at Third and Market streets disclosed the fact that several floors were in good condition and could, after slight repairs, be used as formerly.

The new Monadnock, on Market street next to the Palace Hotel, was found to be in first class condition, even the woodwork in the interior being intact, and the owner, Herbert E. Law, announced tonight that within ten days he would be renting offices in this building. The Monadnock is a large structure of steel and brick almost completed when the fire came. Marble and lumber have been ordered from Los Angeles, and a big force of men will rush the building to completion.

### STEEL MILLS ARE CROWDED.

Structural Material for Bay City May Be Made Abroad.

Pittsburg, Pa., April 23.—According to Pittsburg steel men the rebuilding of San Francisco may be greatly retarded on account of the inability of Pittsburg steel mills to supply structural shapes for the new city. The Carnegie Steel Company and the Jones & Laughlin Company, the big independent concerns, are already so crowded that they have practically closed their order books of delivery of building material within eight months' time.

Never before in the history of structures has there been such a demand for material as this year, and it is feared that it will be well nigh impossible for the mills to take on additional work. According to the local steel men, the San Francisco people will be compelled to go to Great Britain and Germany for a large amount of their building material.

The mills of Germany are busy at the present time, and will be able to take on but little additional work. Those of Great Britain, however, will be able to handle a great many of the orders. On account of the high freight rates from the east to the Pacific Coast the foreign steel mills will be able to deliver structural shapes at San Francisco as cheap and probably cheaper than the local mills will be able to do.

The Pennsylvania and Lackawanna Steel Companies and the Illinois Steel Company will be able to handle some of the work. It is believed that the local mills will, if possible, attempt to put aside some of their present orders, in order to accommodate the more urgent work for San Francisco.

### TAKING CARE OF HEALTH.

Many Willing Workers to Improve Sanitation.

San Francisco, April 23.—The board of health reports a very encouraging health condition, considering the circumstances. Sickness is constantly on the decrease. There are very few contagious diseases, and these are being attended at Deer Lodge in Golden Gate park. Sanitary conditions in the residence districts are being improved.

A large corps of volunteers started at work yesterday removing all cans of garbage to the curbs. Wagons were pressed into service today and the garbage removed to the burned districts, where it will be destroyed. Cesspools are being dug.

### Cliff House Stands.

San Francisco, April 23.—A thorough inspection made by a representative of the Associated Press, who made the trip in an automobile, shows that comparatively little damage was done in the vicinity of the Cliff. The Cliff House not only stands, but the damage sustained by the earthquake shock to this historic building will not exceed, according to the statement of Manager Wilkins, \$500. In fact, the escape of the Cliff House is one of the curious features of the disaster which has befallen San Francisco.

### Plan to Rebuild.

San Francisco, April 23.—Many of the most substantial business men and property owners of San Francisco are in consultation with the architects. While the work of clearing away the debris goes forward a great corps of draughtsmen will be busily occupied preparing plans for the new buildings. It is understood that James D. Phelan will be on of the first to rebuild on Market street. His plans are not complete.

### Says Dowie Cheated Him.

Chicago, April 23.—James Surruck, of New Mexico, today made complaint to the Federal authorities that he had been defrauded by John Alexander Dowie out of a sum close to \$20,000, and that the mails had been used in the operation.