

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.

City Surely Doomed.

Oakland, 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. Dynamite has failed to check the fire. Oakland has been placed under martial law. The San Pablo ferry was sunk by flying debris. All night the heavens were lighted by the light of the vast conflagration. This morning a mass of smoke marks the continuance of the destruction amid scenes of unspeakable horror. The estimated loss in San Francisco will reach from \$150,000,000 to \$200,000,000 in the town.

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

Day Dawns Hopeless

San Francisco, April 19.—Day dawned on a scene of death and destruction. During the night the flames consumed many of the city's finest structures and spread in a dozen directions to the residence portions.

The tear dimmed eyes of a myriad of homeless, stricken, heart weary, helpless people watched the fire stretch its long line of red destruction from the waterfront to the Mission, which it swept of standing wood and brick and steel and iron made a huge, smoldering scrap heap; around the shipping district down to the bay shore, destroying vessels, wharves and docks; and then, in a bitter turn of the wind, shrivel the Warm Belt, reach its destructive banners over the Southern Pacific station at Third and Townsend, crumpling cars and engines and huge buildings into bonfire ashes, and completing the fell work of yesterday south of Market street; then swing back, on the wings of a self-made gale, to find new fuel amid the stately homes of the men who had been state builders and railroad magnates on Nob Hill.

Funston's Resume of Disaster.

Washington, April 19.—The War department today received the following telegram from General Funston:

"Your four dispatches received. Have already filed several for you. It is impossible now to inform you as to the full extent of the disaster. City practically destroyed. Troops have been aiding police patrolling and maintaining order. Martial law has not been declared. Working in conjunction with the civil authorities. Have not interfered with the sending of any dispatches. You cannot send too many tents or rations. About 200,000 people homeless. Food very scarce. Provision houses all destroyed. All the government buildings in the city gone."

Oakland, Cal., April 18.—Earthquake and fire today have caused the greatest calamity California has ever known. In San Francisco alone it is estimated that 1,000 persons have perished, while as many more are suffering from injuries.

The entire business portion of the city is in ruins, and the flames which, owing to the lack of water, cannot be checked, except by blowing up with dynamite buildings in their path, are still sweeping through the city. It is impossible at present to estimate the property loss, for the extent of the conflagration cannot be told until the fire has burned itself out.

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 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 \$5,000,000, also was burned. The beautiful Claus Spreckels building at Third and Market streets was gutted. The Kialto 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 Croker 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 district on 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, Healdsburg and Ukiah. 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 fire 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.

DESTRUCTION GROWS HOURLY.

Firemen Blow Up Buildings—Frenzied 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 wire 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 Pours 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.

Resides 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 Berkely.

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.

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 \$20,000,000, 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 seawall 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 Vietagas 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 sisters 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 \$150,000,000 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.

Will Build \$5,000,000 Plant.

New York, April 20.—It was announced at the office of M. Guggenbeim'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.

REAP CROPS OF FOREST.

Plans Completed for Using Reserve Timber for Ties.

Washington, April 18.—The demand for lodgepole pine ties by the Western railroads, which prefer them to any other because of the ease with which they take preservatives, has greatly increased the market value of the Rocky mountain forests in Northern Colorado, Wyoming, Eastern Idaho and Southern Montana, where lodgepole pine is the predominant tree. These forests are largely within existing and proposed national forest reserves, and are consequently under government control, so that the Forest service has felt the need of preparing plans to permit the sale of such mature timber in them as may be safely spared. During the past year a working plan was completed for about 46,000 acres in the Wyoming division of the Medicine bow reserve.

It was found in the first place that the protective value of the forest as a cover for the watersheds is so great that any utilization of the timber crop must be subordinated to it. Throughout the region the control of stream flow by the forest cover is the prime consideration.

The mining industry, which is of high importance, will not be hampered by the disposal of reserve timber, since all the mining claims located in or near the tract include timber sufficient for the needs of the owners. The present moderate grazing of cattle is carried on without risk to reproduction of the forest.

The Medicine bow forest reserve contains the largest continuous body of lodgepole pine to be found in the Rocky mountains.

The completed plan provides for better protection of the forest from fire, including effective measures for compact piling of debris and brush in openings ready for burning; stipulates that all timber to be removed shall be marked in advance by the forest officers, who will be furnished with a full set of instructions to govern all steps in the logging operations; and requires that all merchantable parts of the trees be used.

Similar working plans will be prepared for available bodies of timber on other reserves, making possible the utilization of these vast forests under a system of scientific management which will perpetuate and improve the stand and, above all, safeguard the forest cover on the watersheds.

ALL READY TO SIGN.

Columbia River Jetty Bill Is Passed by the Senate.

Washington, April 18.—On motion of Senator Fulton, the senate yesterday passed the bill which was adopted by the house of representatives appropriating \$400,000 to continue construction of the Columbia river jetty. It took only one minute to secure its final enactment. When the engrossed copy of the bill reaches the president, it will take him even less time to sign it.

The bill which the senate passed was that introduced by Representative Jones and, although identical with Mr. Fulton's bill, which went through the senate a month ago, it was necessary to put the house bill through the senate in order to make it a law. This required the senate to pass two bills appropriating \$400,000. When the house bill was agreed to the senate, on motion of Mr. Fulton, recalled its original bill from the house and tabled it.

The bill should reach the president the latter part of this week. Commenting on its final passage, Mr. Fulton said:

"To Mr. Burton, chairman, and Mr. Jones, of Washington, a member of the house river and harbor committee, are we especially indebted. Both these gentlemen should be held in kindly remembrance by the people of Oregon. It is fortunate for us that Mr. Jones is a member of that committee, for he is not only a friend of Oregon, but he is one of the strongest men in the house, and is recognized as one of the leaders."

Arranging West Virginia Sale.

Indianapolis, April 18.—The executive board of the United Mineworkers of America began a special session at the Claypool hotel to consider questions that have arisen out of the strike situation in the bituminous district. The proposition of the operators in the Kanawha field of West Virginia to pay an advance of 3 per cent in wages was taken up, and a message of instruction sent to the representatives of the miners, who were to meet tonight at Charleston, W. Va., in joint scale committee with the operators.

Canadians Buy Mexico Car Lines.

Mexico City, April 18.—The reported sale of Mexico electric tramways to the Mexican Light & Power company, a Canadian corporation, has been confirmed. Werner, Belt & Co., of London, sold all their holdings for \$11,000,000. The actual cash paid will be \$6,000,000.

SOURCE OF FRAUDS

Chinese Minister to United States Defends Chinese Officials.

DO NOT ISSUE BAD CERTIFICATES

Only 8 Per Cent of Number Seeking Admission Come From Chinese Government.

Washington, April 17.—Sir Cheng tung Liang Cheng, the Chinese minister, has taken issue with Representative Denby on the question of the responsibility for the issuance of fraudulent certificates of admission to the United States. Mr. Denby stated to the house committee on foreign affairs, during the hearings on the Foster bill, amending the exclusion act, that the fact that so many of those certificates were found to be fraudulent was pretty fair evidence of fraud by the Chinese officials. To this charge the Chinese minister has replied in a letter which has been made a part of the record in these hearings.

During the three years he has been in charge of the legation here, the minister says, he has kept a record of every certificate that has been issued in the provinces of Kwang Tung or Fukien to Chinese subjects departing for the United States, the Philippines or Hawaii; that the emigration from all other provinces is insignificant, and that 527 certificates represent the total number issued. However, he says the figures of the immigration for these three years show the total number of applicants for admission bearing certificates numbers 6,500. The number bearing certificates from the Chinese government, he says, is but 8 per cent of the total number seeking admission.

"Where did the 92 per cent get their certificates?" he asks, and then proceeds to answer the question by stating that under the regulations of the Immigration service officials in the following cities and countries are permitted to issue these certificates: Vancouver, Victoria, New Westminster, Ottawa, Cuba, German protectorate of Kiautschou, Guatemala, Hawaii, Hongkong, Japan, Hokkaido, Formosa, Mexico, Philippine Islands, Portuguese province of Macao, Society Islands, Straits Settlement, Trinidad and Venezuela.

INCREASE IN IMMIGRATION.

Totals for March and for Six Months Exceed All Records.

Washington, April 17.—The total immigration to the United States from all countries during March, 1906, according to a statement issued by the Immigration bureau today was 133,245, or an increase of 70 per cent over March, 1904. The number arriving in March, 1905, is given as 126,932. The number departed during the same month was 659, an increase of 40 per cent over 1904.

The Russian immigration to this country during March, 1906, was 24,203, an increase of 75 per cent over 1904, the immigration for March, 1905, being 16,318.

For the six months ended March 31, 1906, the immigration from all countries was 463,316, an increase of 35 per cent over the same period in 1904. For the same period the immigration from Russia increased 40 per cent, those arriving numbering 81,733.

Advance Federation Case.

Washington, April 17.—In the Supreme court of the United States Edmund F. Richardson, of Denver, today entered a motion to advance the hearing in the cases of Charles H. Moyer, William D. Hayward and George A. Pettibone, in custody in Idaho on the charge of assassinating ex-Governor Steunenberg, of that state. He informed the court that the men were virtually kidnaped in Colorado by the collusion of the governor of that state with the governor of Idaho. The court took the motion under advisement.

Castro's Move Mysterious.

Willemstad, Island of Curacao, April 17.—Passengers arriving here today from Venezuela say that the action of General Castro in retiring from the presidency in favor of President Gomez is not clearly understood in Venezuela, but the general opinion seems to be that his retirement is only temporary. General Castro has gone away as a private citizen, unattended, and paying the regular fare on the railroad. His wife has gone another way, and the ex-president's sister arrived here today.

Townsites on Irrigated Tracts.

Washington, April 17.—The president today signed the Heyburn-French townsites bill, which provides for the formation of townsites on government irrigation tracts and provides water for municipal and domestic purposes as well as for development of water power on government projects.