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QUAKE DEATH LIST IS 20,000 INJURED 35,000

Thousands of Victims Still Buried Alive in Wreckage of Homes—Avizzano Dead Estimated 10,000; Sora, 4000—In Sixty Other Towns 6000 Killed—List Fatalities Grows.

LONDON, Jan. 15.—The Chronicle's Rome correspondent estimates the total killed and injured in the Italian earthquake at between 90,000 and 100,000.

A Central News dispatch from Rome estimates the number of victims at 20,000, distributed as follows: Avizzano, 10,000; Sora, 4000, and elsewhere, 6000.

ROME, Jan. 15.—Constantly shifting estimates, based on reports that continue to trickle in now place the death toll from Wednesday's earthquake at 20,000 and the injured at a number in excess of 35,000.

Hundreds, possibly thousands, of victims still are buried alive in the wreckage of their homes, while rescuers from every walk of life struggle desperately to dig them out.

The king reached the capital in his private car, to which were attached three coaches bearing forty injured. These, like the other hundreds who are slowly reaching Rome, were distributed about the hospitals, regular and extraordinary, in the city.

Pope Offers Hospital Pope Benedict this morning offered to the mayor of Rome the use of the hospital of Santa Maria. The offer was accepted.

The principal loss of life and probably the chief property damage appears to have been in Avizzano and Sora, fifteen miles away. Both of these municipalities were destroyed and their populations virtually wiped out.

Latest reports place the number of dead in Avizzano at 10,000 and in Sora at 4000. In at least sixty other towns more than 6000 have been killed. From these towns come the majority of the injured. In Avizzano and Sora almost everyone was killed.

City Officials Perish Late advices say that about 500 bodies have been recovered and that hundreds of injured have been taken from the ruins. Nearly all the civil officials of Avizzano, including the mayor, lost their lives.

Similar conditions exist in the towns and villages around Avizzano, Magliano, to the north, and Pescina, to the east, are practically in ruins. Among the missing in the last named place is Monsignor Ragnoli, the bishop of Pescina.

Cold and snow are adding to the sufferings of the survivors. The lamentations of the people, according to correspondents who have passed through the disaster are pitiful and they are begging to be taken to places where it is possible to care for them.

Some of the soldiers of the local garrison were today rescued from the ruins of their barracks. The soldiers engaged in relief measures labor night and day to extricate the injured. They see survivors stand in the wreckage of their homes waiting for the bodies of their relatives to be brought out.

BRITISH CAPTURE GERMAN TRENCHES

PARIS, Jan. 15, 5:45 a. m.—The Havas Agency has received a dispatch from Stomer, dated January 10, which relates a British victory and an advance near La Bassee of one mile. The message follows:

"The British by an impetuous attack, stormed the strongly entrenched German position near La Bassee at 2 o'clock this afternoon, after a vigorous preliminary shelling. This is an important strategic point and its occupation represents an advance of one mile. The British losses were slight, but the Germans lost heavily. Many Germans were taken prisoner."

FAMILY OF FOUR LYNCHED IN GEORGIA OVER WHISKEY ROW

ATLANTA, Ga., Jan. 15.—Dan Barber, his son, Jesse, and Barber's two daughters, Eula and Ella, negroes, were taken from the Jasper county jail at Monticello last night by a mob and lynched, according to a telephone message received here late today.

Sheriff James Ezelle was overpowered by 100 men, he said, and the four negroes were forcibly taken from the jail. Their bodies riddled with bullets, were found on the outskirts of the town today.

BRITAIN RELEASES SHIPS DETAINED IN PRIZE COURTS

WASHINGTON, Jan. 15.—Release on bond of ships detained in British prize courts will be permitted by the British government if the judge of the court is willing, according to a statement issued today by the British embassy.

The embassy statement says: "While they cannot give a pledge that all ships now in prize courts will be released on bail being offered, because the decision must rest with the judge, his majesty's government, in order to relieve a shortage of tonnage, are anxious to withdraw ships as little as possible from the carrying trade, and will, therefore, not oppose release on bail of ships now in prize courts, if bail is offered."

"Only seven neutral vessels are at present in prize courts and five ships are detained in the United Kingdom, in addition to this moment for examination as to character and to destination of cargo. One of these will probably be released almost immediately and not one of them under the American flag."

HOW TO PREPARE NATION'S DEFENSE WITHOUT COST

WASHINGTON, Jan. 15.—In urging on the senate the need for a commission to report on military preparedness, or for a permanent council of national defense, Senator Lodge today declared that the national defense of the country "is not only imperfect and unbalanced, but that it has grave and in some instances fatal deficiencies." He designated what he termed many of the defects and said they were "almost wholly due to congress."

An adequate national defense, the senator said, could be obtained without additional expenditures. "Cut off our needless army posts, navy yards and stations," he advised the senate. "Lay aside for a few years appropriations for public buildings and river and harbor improvements where they are not needed. Drop all the expenditures which are designed for spots where votes are lying thickest, and you will have money enough to provide for a sufficient army and an adequate navy without adding to the burdens of taxation."

GRAND DUKE NICHOLAS PRESENTED A MEDAL

PARIS, Jan. 15, 2:55 p. m.—A decree was submitted to President Poincare today which conferred upon Grand Duke Nicholas, commander-in-chief of the Russian forces in the field, the military medal of France.

PRICE OF WHEAT SOARS TO \$1.50 STILL GOING UP

Little Offered and Demand Undiminished—Plenty of Shipping Facilities—In Portland \$1.50 Is Bid and Refused, \$1.55 Asked—Chicago Wheat Goes Up Two Cents.

PORTLAND, Ore., Jan. 15.—Where heretofore trading has been more extensive than at any time in the history of the Portland exchange, a sudden halt was called today and wheat could not be bought at any price that was offered. Holders believed that in view of the unprecedented prices everywhere they could safely await for greater profits.

Today the predicted price of \$1.50 for wheat became a reality when May bluestem was bid for at that figure, but holders demanded \$1.55. This bid price has not been equalled anywhere in the United States since the Civil war. All bids were up from 1 to 2 cents.

CHICAGO, Jan. 15.—Immense export business caused a fresh upheaval today in the price of wheat and flour, and even more so in rye and corn. The foreign buying of wheat and corn was counted in millions of bushels.

Wheat vaulted to \$1.45 3/4 for May delivery as against 1.43% as the highest yesterday, or any time before since the war began. Flour jumped 20 cents a barrel and corn and rye respectively 3% and five cents a bushel.

NEW YORK, Jan. 15.—The price of flour soared today to the highest point it has reached in many years. Fancy grades in jobbing lots were quoted at \$8 a barrel. On the floor of the produce exchange there was a general advance of about 20 cents a barrel on all grades. Spring patents were quoted at \$7.35 and some fancy patents at \$7.60 per barrel.

CHICAGO, Jan. 15.—Less than a minute after the opening today wheat broke the war price high record. First sales of the May delivery shot up to \$1.43% a bushel, nearly a full cent above last night's close, and overtopping by 3/4 cent the previous tallest figures, which were attained on yesterday's excited advance.

Liverpool quotations up 2 to 2 cents had much to do with the fresh upturn here. Before the market was an hour old May wheat selling at \$1.44% a 1/2 had gained more than two cents a bushel in value, as compared with what was received with astonishment the day before. Advices from rural centers, notably in Kansas and Nebraska, indicated that farmers were selling little. On the other hand, there seemed to be no limit to demand for ocean shipment, regardless of supposed scarcity of vessels.

CALIFORNIA HANGS TWO MURDERERS

SACRAMENTO, Cal., Jan. 15.—Samuel Raber was hanged today in the Folsom prison for the murder of Cherry de St. Maurice, so-called tenderloin queen of Sacramento. "I am not afraid to meet the finish," he said. "It is not courage but fate."

The murder of the Cherry woman occurred in July, 1913.

SAN QUENTIN, Cal., Jan. 15.—Ralph Fariss, confessed murderer and train robber, was hanged today in the prison yard here.

Fariss shot dead Horace E. Montague, traveling passenger agent of the Southern Pacific railroad, on the night of December 1, 1913, near El Monte. Fariss had swung aboard the Sunset Limited and was robbing the passengers in the observation car when Montague entered and began to walk down the aisle toward him.

FEDERAL BUILDING CONTRACT LET; TO BE FINISHED IN 16 MONTHS

Washington, D. C., Jan. 15.—Mail Tribune, Medford, Ore.: Treasury department accepted bid Sound Construction & Engineering company of Seattle for Medford federal building at \$95,881. Time, sixteen months from January 11. GEO. E. CHAMBERLAIN.

ITALIAN MONARCH RETURNS TO ROME FROM AVEZZANO

ROME, Jan. 15, 5 p. m.—King Victor Emmanuel returned to Rome last night. At Avezzano yesterday he was indefatigable in his efforts to encourage and help his people. He climbed over the ruins and spoke words of courage to the rescuers. He witnessed the extrication of a young girl still alive and gave directions for her rescue.

Some of the survivors at Avezzano have not even yet sufficiently recovered from the shock of their experiences to tell a connected story of the visitation. One man who was taken yesterday from a ruin said:

"I had a sensation as though some one was forcing me to dance. Then I was thrown to the ground and the roof and walls fell upon my head. Even after I was half buried the earth seemed to heave and grow hot."

A priest was saying mass in a church when he felt the first shock. He rushed under an arch of the building and saved his life. His acolytes were struck down and killed. The shocks destroyed the aqueduct system of Avezzano and there is today no water in the town.

It is reported that a statue of the virgin forty feet high, which stood on the shore of Lake Fucino, has been thrown into the water. There is considerable danger that the drained land in this vicinity will be flooded.

VANCOUVER WORLD IS ORDERED SOLD

VANCOUVER, B. C., Jan. 15.—Chief Justice Hunter of the supreme court today made an order on an application of the bondholders of the World newspaper for a sale of that property to take place in a month. The sale is to be by private tender.

L. D. Taylor, who was yesterday elected mayor of Vancouver, is manager of the World.

APPLE BOX BILL KILLED IN CONGRESS

WASHINGTON, Jan. 15.—Failure of Chairman Ashbrook of the committee on enrolled bills to make the standard apple box bill "unfinished business" yesterday afternoon has killed the bill, according to Representative Sinnott, who is preparing to demand an explanation from the floor. The bill was introduced by Oregon apple growers.

IT ISN'T YOUR TOWN---IT'S YOU.

If you want to live in the kind of a town Like the kind of a town you like, You needn't slip your clothes in a grip And start on a long, long hike, You'll find what you left behind. For there's nothing that's really new; It's knock at yourself when you knock your town. It isn't your town—its you. Real towns are not made by men afraid Lest somebody else gets ahead. When everyone works and nobody shirks, You can raise a town from the dead. And if while you make your personal stake, Your neighbor can make one, too, Your town will be what you want to see. It isn't your town—it's YOU!

FRENCH FORCED ACROSS AISNE BY VON KLUCK

Violent Attacks for Second Time Drive French Back, Though Germans Fail to Recover All Ground Lost—Winter Hammers Operations—British Success in Belgium.

LONDON, Jan. 15, 1:20 p. m.—The violent German attack to the north of Soissons, under the direction of General Von Kluck, which, coupled with a flood stage of the river, has forced the French back across the Aisne, is the most striking news of the last twenty-four hours from the seat of war.

The Germans have been gaining in this locality for several days, but they had not recovered all of the ground lost by them. This engagement north of Soissons is the first notable fighting in the vicinity since last September, when the British army, which subsequently was transferred to Belgium, was successful in crossing the Aisne.

Snow in the Vosges mountains and floods in Flanders still prevent any extensive operations on the eastern or western wings, and to British observers it appears as though the Soissons district had been selected for the point where, with reinforcements and first line troops, the Germans are planning to dis-lay once more the hammer tactics so familiar during the autumn. On the other hand, some war experts argue that the operations at Soissons may have been undertaken to compel the allies to lessen the pressure in Alsace.

British Win Trenches The British claim to have won a marked success several days ago near La Bassée, when they drove the Germans from strongly entrenched positions, gaining one mile in distance and inflicting severe losses on their antagonists.

Italy has been momentarily distracted from thoughts of war by the devastating earthquake of January 13. The assertion still is being made in London that the allies confidently expect to join them in due course.

The fighting in the vicinity of Kara-Urgan, in Turkish Armenia, continues. Russians have captured many more officers and soldiers and are continuing the pursuit of the Turkish troops defeated at Olti, fifty-five miles west of Kars, in divers directions.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON IMMIGRATION BILL

WASHINGTON, Jan. 15.—The conference report on the immigration bill, which includes the literacy test, was accepted by the house today by a vote of 227 to 96. It already has been adopted by the senate and now goes to the president who will hold public hearings.

SPANISH QUEEN ILL WITH SCARLET FEVER

MADRID, Jan. 15, via London, 5:30 p. m.—It was made known in Madrid this afternoon that Queen Victoria of Spain is confined to her apartments with scarlet fever.

SORA DEMOLISHED WITH POPULATION OF SEVENTEEN THOUSAND

ROME, Jan. 15.—There is reason to believe that only a few hundred persons out of the 17,000 who inhabited Sora have been saved. It is impossible as yet to ascertain the exact number of the dead and wounded. Relief expeditions have been hurried to Sora and every hour is bringing more harrowing particulars of the destruction of the town.

The shocks were so severe at Sora that some buildings were apparently removed from their foundations and overturned some distance from their original positions. The river Liri is in flood.

SULLIVAN WORE UNDERSHIRT IN MEETING CALLERS

NEW YORK, Jan. 15.—Concerning the personal habits of James M. Sullivan, American minister to Santo Domingo, he was told that the minister on one occasion received the Italian minister and the British charge d'affaires in his undershirt. Charles A. Butlin testified today at the inquiry being conducted into the fitness of Sullivan to hold his position. It was an official call, added Butlin, who is an Englishman, former head of the Dominican government wireless service.

"And I can testify," interrupted Walker W. Vick, instigator of the Sullivan inquiry, "that the minister received them in disgraceful attire."

Butlin said Minister Sullivan had made him proposals for the extension of the island's wireless system and later had inspired his removal from office in the wireless service.

"This," said Butlin, "was due to the fact that I was an antagonist to any private concessions being granted by the government."

Roger L. Farnham, secretary of the National City Bank of New York, denied that his bank had any plans contemplating the exploitation of Santo Domingo. He said the bank's only interest in the island was the lending of \$1,500,000 to the government two years ago.

RUSSIAN FLEET BOMBARDS TURKS

PARIS, Jan. 15, 2 p. m.—The French department of marine today gave out an official statement which says:

"The Russian fleet in the Black sea has fired upon the Turkish cruisers Breslau and Hamidieh, causing them severe damage. The Russian fleet then proceeded along the coast to the Bays of Sinope, Trebizond and Platane, and set fire to and destroyed a large number of the enemy's merchant ships. It also bombarded the port of Hopsa."

The activity of the Russian fleet in the Black sea, referred to in this dispatch from Paris, was recited at considerable length in a dispatch from Petrograd under date of January 10. The vessel referred to as the Breslau is the former German cruiser of that name, which, with the Goeben, took refuge in Turkish waters early in the war. The Breslau has been renamed by the Turks, Midiri, and the Goeben was named Sultan.

FLAX BREAKS ALL RECORD AT DULUTH

DULUTH, Minn., Jan. 15.—Ten and three-quarters cents advance was scored by flax shortly after the opening today. May reached \$1.97, which breaks all records for the seed on the Duluth board of trade. The reason assigned was that Argentine shipments are stopped by prohibitive freight and war insurance.

MYSTERY VEILS ANDERSON CREEK HUNT TRAGEDY

Charles Thomason Slain While Hunting Deer Out of Season at Head of Anderson Creek—Evidently Mistaken for a Deer by Unknown Hunter—Found Dead by Father.

The body of Charles Thomason, victim of a mysterious shooting on the north fork of Anderson creek, Thursday afternoon, between three and four o'clock, was brought to the city this morning by Coroner John A. Perl. With it came the grief-stricken aged father, and a number of witnesses, who will testify at the hearing to be held this afternoon.

Developments today in the evidence left not a shred of doubt, but that Thomason was killed by an unknown hunter who mistook him for a deer and who like himself was shooting deer out of season. The course of the bullet, and the unburned clothing, that would have naturally followed the accidental discharge of his own gun, at close range, dispel this theory advanced by the sheriff's office Thursday night.

Body Found By Father

According to the story of the father, N. S. Thomason, the dead man left their cabin in mid afternoon in search of deer. It was agreed that at a whistle the father should come and help bring in the results of the hunt. In a half or three-quarters of an hour, the father heard four shots. Two of them were together. Following these there was a prolonged whistle, the agreed signal, and the father started towards the sound. En route he heard another shot, followed by a series of whistles that lead him to the spot. After an interval he heard the last of the four shots, and probably the one that killed his boy.

About 60 rods from the family cabin, the body of the son was found, and 50 feet away, down the hillside, lay the two deer, one a fawn and dressed, and the other a buck. Both were fixed to carry. Life was extinct when the father arrived.

Theory of Shooting

The strongest supposition now advanced is that Thomason after killing the two deer made his way towards his cabin, his shots attracting the attention of another hunter out on the same illegal mission, who followed in his wake, hoping to get a shot at the flushed game, or at a fleeing wounded deer if Thomason's shots had failed to be effective. Thomason in the meantime proceeded towards his cabin with his meat, and when near home stopped to dress the deer, and gave the call to his aged parent.

While thus engaged, it is advanced, the unknown hunter, came upon him at a distance, and mistaking him for a deer fired the third shot heard by the father. Thomason, then, realizing his danger is presumed to have sought safety from the open spot where he was engaged, and moved back towards protection. The fourth shot of the unknown slayer proved fatal, the bullet striking Thomason in the right shoulder and ranging downward through the lungs and intestines. The course of the

(Continued on page 2.)

POPE BENEDICT VISITS HOSPITAL

ROME, Jan. 15.—Some of the newspapers announce that Pope Benedict, in visiting the wounded at Santa Marta hospital, left the vatican, thus interrupting the traditional imprisonment of the Pope always adhered to by Popes Pius IX, Leo and Pius X, after the fall of the temporal power meaning thus to protest against the occupation of Rome.

In reality the pontiff did not leave the vatican, but passing through the apostolic palace inside of St. Peter's, he reached the hospital without touching Italian soil. His predecessor did the same thing when he visited the injured brought to Santa Marta hospital after the earthquake in Messina.