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ITALY EARTHQUAKE GROWS IN HORROR

Late Reports Indicate More Than One Hundred Thousand Lives Were Lost in the Earth's Convulsion in Southern Italy.

DANTE'S AWFUL PORTRAITURE

Of the Infernal Regions is Eclipsed by the Actual Scenes of Ruin and Untold Agony--Blow Strikes Cold to Hearts of All the Nations.

The latest phases of Italy's disaster: Total estimate of the dead by the Italian government, 25,000. General Cassato has started to burning bodies on funeral pyres at Messina. Twenty cities are in flames today. All wagon roads and railroads are destroyed, the only access to the stricken districts being by water. St. Romboli, (volcano) becomes active. Another quake is felt at Palermo. The misery of the victims is heightened by a chilling rainstorm.

ROME, Dec. 30.—One hundred thousand dead; Messina, in Sicily. and Reggio, and a score of other towns in southern Italy overwhelmed; the entire Calabrian region laid waste—this is the earthquake's record as far as is at present known from the reports coming slowly into Rome on account of the almost complete destruction of the lines of communication to the stricken places.

The death list in Messina range from 12,000 to 50,000 that of Reggio, which with its adjacent villages numbered 45,000 people, includes almost the entire population. At Palmi, 1,000 are reported dead; Cassano 1,000; Cozena 500, and half of the population of Bagniara about 4,000.

The Monteleone ergion has been devestated and Riposto, Seminara, San Giovanni, Scilla, Lazzaro, Cannitello and all other communities and villages bordering on the straits are in ruins.

The king and queen of Italy are now on the way to Messina, having sailed tonight from Naples aboard the battleship Vittorio Emmanuel.

The pope has shown the greatest distress at the calamity and he himself was first to contribute a sum amounting to $200,000 to the relief of the afflicted. British, French and Russian warships are steaming toward the south, and already, several ships of Great Britain and Russia have reached Sicily. Officers and men of these ships have performed heroic service in the work of rescue.

It is feared that many foreigners have been killed, as a number of hotels at Messina and doubtless at other places, were crowded with tourists.

Little is known of the fate of the diplomatic representatives of foreign powers stationed at these posts, although the Italian government is using every effort to learn.

There is the gravest danger that pestilence will follow the destruction of the towns, where on account of the vast havoc wrought, bodies will lie unburied for days and weeks. Those who escaped death, many of whom are badly injured, are making their way by thousands to the nearest place of refuge. Their sufferings even now must be intense, as they are without food or clothing.

The latest reports received here state that four thousand soldiers in various barracks at Messina, are buried under the ruins. The Rock of Charybdis now blocks the entrance to the strait of Messina. The tidal wave wrecked the light houses in the strait, including the Faro beacon, and they crashed into the sea.

The work of rescue at Messina, according to meagre details received here tonight, presented harrowing scenes. Hundreds of people were pinned under the walls and rafters alive, but terribly injured, for thirty hours, one of the rescueers found under the ruins of a house five children alive, but unable to speak clinging around the corpse of their mother. In some cases the heroic rescuers met death in the falling debris. In one house twenty persons were suspended on a fifth floor and unable to reach the street because the lower floors had been torn away. They were rescued with a rope by a sailor. Six criminals were killed while attempting to loot the Bank of Sicily where cash amounting to half a million dollars lay in plain view.

Further stories, told by the officers of the Sappho, show the tremendous force of the great wave that swept completely over the city from which dense clouds of dust arose as the buildings fell, while the air was rent by agonizing cries for help. Only at sunrise was it possible to get a faint idea of what had happened.

It is impossible to describe the horror in all its tragic grandeur. Almost the entire city was, in the twinkling of an eye reduced to ruins, and in the midst of these still stood the gigantic and sinister walls of the great Hotel Trinacria, where a hundred foreign guests met their death, the municipal palace and a line of what were once splendid edifices along the sea front.

From a dozen sections tongues of flames were seen shooting out of the ruins, and shortly half the town was enveloped in flames. Sailors from the Sappho, under the command of the head engineer, succeeded, after a mighty struggle against the waves, in reaching land and they were among the first to penetrate into town and begin the work of rescue. At every step they came upon dead and dying and they joined others in trying to save those caught in the ruins.

Several hundred soldiers were killed at Catanzaro and many policemen were killed and wounded. Thousands of charred bodies have been seen floating in the straits. At Palmi three hundred corpses have been discovered and many more are still beneath the wreckage of the town.

Every house in Bagnara was levelled. All the railway stations between Messina and Rometta were destroyed. Every little village has its quota of dead.

Before the departure of the king on the battleship Vittorio Emmanuel, the king received a telegram from President Roosevelt, expressing the sympathy of the United States. The king highly appreciated this kindly expresssion of concern.

This may be Castro's Home Coming.

Many Towns Fire Swept.

ROME, Dec. 30.—Fires are still raging in many of the ruined towns, according to advices received by the Minister of Marines. In Messina the fire is controlled. Rigid enforcement of martial law has brought a semblance of order. In some sections, however, the bullets of the soldiers failed to awe the looters who robbed victims of the quake. Deputies are arriving at Rome today for a special session of parliament to vote a relief measure. The pope insists his place is with the sufferers.

Queen Helena Terror Stricken.

PALERMO, Dec. 30.—Queen Helena almost swooned from grief on arriving at Messina today where the scene encountered was far more grewsome than her gravest fears led her to expect. Medical assistance was necessary to revive her and it was some time before she and the king could undertake the work of directing the relief. Both the king and queen wept and scores of the almost insane survivors crowded around them when they arrived and threw themselves in the mud screaming in horror. The queen was terror stricken and clung to the king. Many people tried to kiss the hands of the king and queen and prayed to them as if they were saints.

Survivors Almost Insane.

PALERMO, Dec. 30.—Train loads of Messina survivers are reaching Palermo. Most of them are fearfully injured. Many who were placed on trains twelve miles out of Messina, the nearest approach to the stricken city, died enroute. All the survivors are in a state of semi-stupor.. They can't talk intelligently. The wounded were carried from Messina to trains on litters. In a clash between the marines and outlaws, following the quake at Messina, several marines are reported killed.

Starvation and Disease.

ROME, Dec. 30.—Messages received today from warships at Messina say the rescuers are utterly swamped and it will require days to effect an adequate relief system. Refugees are scattered for leagues in every direction. Pneumonia and meningitis has already broken out at Messina. The gravest anxiety is felt whether authorities will be able to keep the survivors from starving. At many places food supplies are completely destroyed and it will be several days before they can reach some points of greatest destitution.

Sea Covers Catanzaro.

CATANZARO, Dec. 30.—Captain Carbineers who arrived here today from Reggio says the sea now covers the city. No buildings are standing in the city. He said "the town is not swallowed by the earth, but the sea rolled in a mighty well of water, and engulfed it. Think only a few hundred of the entire population escaped. The lower part of the town is rapidly settling and it is feared that it will drop into the sea."

Tammany Hall Gives $2,000.

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Tammany Hall, through a general committee, today contributed $2,000 to the Italian relief funds. $25,000 is said to have been raised by "Little Italy."

Food Supplies by Boats.

CATANIA Dec. 30.—The layer of mud covering Messina is still yielding its harvest of dead, according to reports reaching here today. Heaps of the dead are piled in the streets. The priests are working heroically. Owing to the impassability of roads owing to floods and land slides, they forced relief parties to distribute food supplies from boats. Sufferers throng the wharf begging the captains of the boats to carry them from the scene. None were accommodated. The only passengers on the boats were soldiers.

Dictatorship at Messina.

PALERMO, Dec. 30.—The Bank of Sicily at Messina, sent the following wireless to Palermo today: "Gen. Fecci De Cassato is taking the strongest measures to prevent the catastropy becoming worse through the disorder. For the present he will maintain a practical dictatorship. The chief danger now is from the plague for thousands of bodies lie unburied in the streets. The General advocates an immediate cremation of all the bodies. The people are already beside themselves and will not permit this to be added to their grief. The trouble is greatly aggravated owing to the inhabitants utter loss of nerve through a stupor that seems to affect everyone." The authorities regret the presence of the king and queen. They say they are unable to help and will only tie the hands of other officials better fitted for the work. It is feared some one, insane from suffering, might attempt an assassination.

Cheney's Family Hopeful.

NEW HAVEN, Dec. 30.—Despite cable messages from Vice-Consul Tupton at Messina, expressing fear of the death of Consul Cheney, his wife and relatives here still hope he has escaped.

Queen Rescues a Child .

CATANIA, Dec. 30.—Queen Helena personally rescued a child from the ruins of a building at Messina, according to authentic reports this afternoon. Against the remonstrances of the king the attendants entered the ruins which was in danger of collapsing and pulled a child from an imperiled position and carried it to a waiting boat. After the first breakdown upon arriving at Messina, the queen recovered completely and went heroically along with other rescuers.

Sicilians Will Return.

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 30.—Many of the Sicilians who are living here are preparing to hurry back to the stricken native country to seek the surviving members of their families.

Mass Meeting at Kansas City.

KANSAS CITY, Dec. 30.—A mass meeting for Sunday was called today by Peter Isnardi, Italian consul, to organize a relief for quake victims.

Cheney's Are Dead.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30.—Consul Gale at Malta, cables the state department: "Consul Cheney and wife are both dead. The bodies are unrecovered yet."

Relatives Are Anxious.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30.—Inquiries of relatives and friends of Americans supposed to be in the quake district of Italy are being received at the state department. The department is depending for information upon Ambassador Griscom and other officials of the consular, and diplomatic service who are making efforts to discover Americans at Messina and other towns at the time of the disaster. Ambassador Griscom cabled the state department today he had seen the king and queen before departure, and expressed the sympathy of the American people.

Workmen Start for Reggio.

ROME, Dec. 30.—Plans for rebuilding the railway into Reggio was pushed today. A train carrying workmen and material started for Reggio and a telegraph station will be established near the city as soon as possible. It is feared the towns of Cannattelli, Lazarro, Adjacent and Reggio have suffered the same fate of the larger city.

GRAFTER RUEF MUST SERVE TIME

San Francisco Briber is Sentenced to Fourteen Years in the Penitentiary.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 30.—Abraham Ruef, former political boss of San Francisco, was Tuesday sentenced to fourteen years in the penitentiary. The sentence was pronounced by Judge Lawler, who presided over Ruef's trial on a charge of bribing a member of the Schmitz board of supervisors in the award of an overhead trolley to the United Railroads. The trial, which ended with conviction December 10, was one of the most celebrated in the history of the city.

Trying to Prove Alibis.

UNION CITY, Aenn., Dec. 29.—The defense of the Rider cases was devoted today in an effort to establish alibis for the eight meen accused in the Rankin murder. Three already have been on the stand.

Gold Coin to Denver.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 30.That the government has been busy for several months removing $222,500,000 gold coin from the local mint to Denver, was disclosed here today. Mint officials will not talk, but the belief is the general transfer was a strategic move to defeat a seizure in event of war.

Infernal Machine to Clerk.

DULUTH, Dec. 30.—A. E. Bickford, the city clerk of Verginia, Minn., today had a narrow escape from being blown to atoms by an infernal machine sent to him by some unknown person. It contained half a pound of dynamite.

—Read The Daily Gate City. 10 cents per week.

HUNDRED MINERS ARE ENTOMBED

At Least That Number Thought to be Hopelessly Imprisoned in Local Mine of the Lick Branch Collieries Co.

A TERRIFIC EXPLOSION

Company Refuses to Tell Number of Men in Mine and None Are Allowed to Approach—Recovering the Dead.

MAYBURY, Ky., Dec. 30.—More than a hundred miners are believed to be hopelessly imprisoned in the local mine of the Lick branch collieries as a result of a terrific explosion Tuesday afternoon. The company refuse to tell the figures of the number of men in the mine, and will not permit anyone to approach the collieries save rescuers. It is stated that not less than 200 men were in the mine, at the time of the disaster. So far seevnteen have been removed, twelve of whom were dead.

Coffins Ordered From Cincinnati.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 30.—Orders were this morning received by local firm for forty coffins to be sent to Maybury where the mine disaster occurred. It is believed additional ones will be ordered from other points.

Forty-Two Removed.

Forty-two of the men were removed from the mine at 9 o'clock this morning, of which twelve were dead.

Thirty Buried Under Debris.

At eleven o'clock today the mine officials admitted that thirty men are buried under the debris, all of whom are probably dead. It is believed that the death list will reach fifty. The miners say that at least forty others are entombed in another section of the mine.

TODAY'S WEATHER FORECAST.

Indications for Iowa, Illinois, and Missouri Wired from Chicago.

For Keokuk and vicnity: Fair tonight and Thursday. Cold wave tonight. Colder Thursday.

For Illinois Fair and colder tonight and Thursday, with cold wave north portion.

For Iowa: Fair tonight and Thursday. Cold wave tonight. Colder east portion Thursday.

For Missouri: Fair and much colder tonight. Thursday fair with colder east portion.

Weather Conditions.

There have been snow flurries from the Upper Missouri Valley to the Upper Lakes, rains in the Lower Missouri Valley, Arkansas, Tennessee, the Eastern Gulf, the Ohio Valley and Lower Lake Region, with the storm center moving from the Dakotas to the Upper Lake Region.

The eastern high barometer has moved to New England, and the storm is followed by a very high barometer in Northern Montana, where the temperature has fallen to 8 below zero, and fair colder weather prevails in the Upper Missouri Valley.

Fair weather is indicated in this section tonight and Thursday, with a cold wave tonight, the temperature falling to about ten degrees above zero, and continuing cold during Thursday.

River Bulletin.

	Fld.Stage.	Height.	Chng.	Rnfall
St. Paul	14	Frozen	....	Cldy.
La Crosse ...	12	Frozen	....	Cldy.
Davenport ..	.15	1.9	x0.3	Clear
Galland	8	1.1	x0.1	....
Keokuk	15	1.6	x0.1	Clear
St. Louis	30	3.2	x0.1	Clear

xRise. -Fall.

The river will remain nearly stationary.

C., B. & Q. Bridge, Burlington, Iowa, Dec. 29.—The present stage of the river is 1 foot 5½ inches above low water mark, a fall of 1 inch since last report.

Local Observations.

Dec.	Bar.	Ther.	Wind	Weather
29, 7 p.m.....	29.92	44	SW	Foggy
30, 7 a.m.....	30.12	31	W	Foggy

River above low water of 1864, 1 and 6 tenths feet; change in 24 hours, rise of 1 tenth foot.

Mean temperature, 41.

Maximum temperature, 49.

Minimum temperature, 33.