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VALLEY ROAD OPEN DIRECT TO OAKLAND

At the dispatcher's office of the Southern Pacific railroad at River station it was announced last night that the road over the valley route was open clear through from this city to Oakland pier, but over the coast line it was impossible to move traffic farther north than Pajaro junction.

It was also stated at the same time that even over the valley line the danger in running trains was extremely great.

In many places the roadbed has met with unheavals as a result of the earthquake shocks, and although the Southern Pacific officials were having every foot of trackage gone over most carefully, they have not yet decided to run trains on regular schedule.

The ferry system between Oakland mole and San Francisco is completely demoralized, owing to the crowding of the boats whenever one attempts to leave the San Francisco side.

The regular schedule of boats between the two sides of the bay has been partially discontinued until the present panic has quieted down.

GAUGER GOES NORTH TO HELP UNCLE SAM

Special Gauger F. H. Driscoll of the force of United States Internal Revenue Agent B. M. Thomas left Los Angeles last night for San Francisco at 11:30.

Mr. Driscoll, assisting Revenue Agent Thomas, has been in Los Angeles for the past week or ten days engaged in matters of importance to the government and did not contemplate returning to San Francisco for several days, but when the extent of the calamity had been made plain Revenue Agent Thomas at once ordered him to return to San Francisco and render what aid he could to Collector of Internal Revenue Lynch, whose offices are in the destroyed district.

Mr. Thomas, who is accompanied by his wife, is a resident of San Francisco and has two sons there.

Up to a late hour last night he had received no news from them, and while feeling nervous remained in Los Angeles to look after the interests of the government.

EMPLOYES OF HERALD GIVE $166.50 TO FUND

In the office of The Herald yesterday $166.50 was subscribed by the employes toward the fund for relieving the earthquake sufferers.

This money will be at once turned over to the relief committee and further subscriptions will be received at this office and reported from day to day.

All money collected will be placed in the hands of the executive committee of the relief fund.

TWO CASES FINE OLD WINE

Freight Paid to Any Point in the United States for Only

$9

C. F. A. LAST

129-131 N. MAIN ST. LOS ANGELES

FIFTY PEOPLE KILLED AT SAN JOSE

COURT HOUSE AND EVERY BUSINESS BLOCK DEMOLISHED

By Associated Press.

OAKLAND, April 18.—At San Jose the Vendome hotel annex was badly wrecked and ten or fifteen killed. The Doherty block was completely burned and one woman killed. Dr. de Crow was killed and his wife badly injured. Every business building was demolished. The militia was called out and martial law declared. It is estimated that fifty have been killed. The postoffice was half wrecked. The first Presbyterian church was totally demolished. The court house is a wreck. Passengers arriving from other cities in California bring tales of death and disaster. Santa Cruz, Monterey, Gilroy and Hollister are wrecked. The death list at Santa Cruz is reported large. With one exception all the buildings at Stanford university were reported demolished.

The state insane asylum at Agnews is demolished; superintendent and wife killed; several nurses injured. Many inmates killed. Two hundred inmates who escaped are running wild.

SANTA ROSA TOTAL WRECK

Santa Rosa is a total wreck; 10,000 homeless; loss of life will probably reach hundreds. The whole business portion of the city tumbled into ruins. Main street is piled on either side many feet deep with fallen buildings. Not one business building is left intact. The four-story courthouse is a pile of broken masonry. Nothing is left. Identification is impossible. Not destroyed by earthquake but by fire. Citizens fled to the fields and hills to watch the destruction of the city. The water system was destroyed by earthquake.

EARTHQUAKE IS PLAINLY FELT AT SANTA BARBARA

Special to The Herald.

SANTA BARBARA, April 18.—The earthquake shock was noticeable here but no damage was done. Buildings in all parts of the city shook and swayed and chairs and other objects were scattered about the rooms. The town clock stopped at 5:15 o'clock this morning.

Reports from Lompoc, Santa Maria and Orcutt state that the shock was severe at those places but that the damage done was slight.

The coast line of the Southern Pacific between Salinas and San Francisco is blockaded by a landslide at Logan, a wrecked bridge at Crittenden and by the wreck of a freight train thrown from the track by the shock. It will be several days before the line can be opened. Local trains will run south from Salinas.

The chamber of commerce met in special session tonight and passed resolutions of condolence to San Francisco sufferers. Many Santa Barbara people are in San Francisco and much apprehension is felt for their safety.

SOME OF WORLD'S GREATEST QUAKES

CAUSES AND RESULTS OF BIG DISTURBANCES

Scientific Article Treats on History of Most Violent Earthquakes During Last Five Centuries

The following scientific article on earthquakes, which explains their cause and gives in detail an account of some of the greatest shocks in the world's history, will prove of interest:

Earthquakes consist of a series of undulatory impulses or elastic waves transmitted through the rocks of the crust of the earth in somewhat the same way that sound is transmitted through the air. These waves are of two classes; first compression waves propagated parallel to the direction of transmission, second distortion waves normal to the direction of transmission. The speed with which these waves are transmitted varies greatly. It is greatest near the starting point and diminishes somewhat as the waves die out. The speed is also affected by differences in the elasticity and homogeneousness of rock masses. In general it varies from several hundred to several thousand feet per second. The waves of the Charleston earthquake, August 31, 1886, had the great speed of nearly 16,000 feet per second. The destructive effects of earthquakes are due to the high velocity of the undulatory impulses rather than to the amplitude of the vibrations, since the latter is usually only a very small fraction of an inch and but rarely is as much as two inches. The violence of earthquakes varies greatly. Delicate instruments, seismographs, constructed to show variations in the stability of the earth's crust, show that the crust is almost continually trembling even in regions where shocks of some magnitude are rarely felt.

Seismic Center

Earthquakes are sometimes classified as central and linear. In the first the undulatory impulses radiate from a center of origin or focus in all directions. In the second the strong impulses are felt along narrow strips of the earth's crust. If rocks were of equal elasticity and an earthquake focus were a point the undulatory impulses would travel outwardly in all directions, and at the surface of the earth points equally distant from the focus or seismic center would feel the shock at the same moment and the isoseisms or lines drawn through places simultaneously affected would form circles. The point over the seismic center when the shock is vertical is termed the epicentrum. The results from the study of earthquake data are often variable and puzzling, and the determination of the focus is not an easy matter. In general, the seismic center has been found to be not a point but an area, and in the case of the Agram earthquake in Hungary, 1880, the area must have been large since vertical impulses were felt over a considerable region. It also is known that the seismic center is very seldom thirty miles below the surface and the commonest depth is eight or ten miles.

Extent of Shocks

The seismic center of the Charleston earthquake was at a depth of about twelve miles. An earthquake tremor may be felt on the surface distinctly, and not in the lower levels of a deep mine and vice versa. The size of the area when the trembling is perceptible probably bears some proprotion to the violence of the initial shock. The great Lisbon earthquake, 1775, was distinctly felt from Madeira to Great Britain, or over the whole southwest Europe and northwest Africa. The Charleston earthquake was felt from Northern Florida to New England and as far west as Iowa, or over an area approximately 1000 miles long and 800 miles wide. In the Lisbon earthquake the tremors lasted but about six minutes. In the Calabrian earthquakes, 1783 and 1787, the trembling was practically continuous for four years. When an earthquake occurs beneath the sea the ocean above is uplifted and the shock spreads outwardly in low, long waves that travel rapidly but are slower than the earthquake.

High Speed of Waves

In mid ocean such waves are of no importance, but as they approach shore the drag of the sea bottom decreases their speed and length, but greatly increases their height, and what are erroneously termed tidal waves result. On a low lying coast such waves may be very destructive. The explosion of Krakatoa in August, 1883, caused sea waves that went around the world at a speed of 400 miles an hour. At distant points like the coast of Europe the waves were slight and were detected by tide gauges. On the coast of Java the waves were over 60 feet high and thousands of people were drowned. An earthquake in the north Pacific in June, 1896, caused waves 40 feet high along the northern coast of Japan that did great damage, over 27,000 people being drowned. Such an earthquake wave on the coast of Peru once picked up a gunboat of the United States navy and left it stranded a mile inland. Earthquakes are usually commonest in regions of present or recent volcanic activity. In the United States they are commonest in California, and in general earthquakes are more often felt near the coast than inland, just as volcanoes are more often found near the sea.

Earthquake Zone

At the same time there is a seismic zone encircling the whole earth in which earthquakes are more numerous than elsewhere and this zone does not coincide with the distribution of volcanoes. The zone includes Central America, the West Indies, the Azores, Italy, Syria, Persia, Afghanistan, Tibet, Japan and Hawaii. It is by some regarded as the real earthquake center, since shocks in regious without the belt are sometimes traced to disturbances within it. Thus the earthquakes of the Mississippi valley, 1812, ceased when the volcano St. Vincent, 2000 miles distant, burst into activity. The sounds that accompany earthquakes have been variously compared to the rumbling of thunder, the clanking of chains, sometimes loud sounds accompanying slight shocks.

As earthquakes are frequently connected with the eruptions of volcanoes, and are common in volcanic regions, many observers have thought that earthquakes were volcanic phenomena.

Cause of Tremblors

This view was first expressed nearly 2000 years ago by Pliny, and during the first half of the nineteenth century was held by many geologists, including Von Humbolt. From the fact, however, that many earthquakes in the countries about the Mediterranean, in California, and elsewhere, are not accompanied by any volcanic activity, and since any great shock or heavy blow within the earth's crust would be propogated by undulatory impulses, to the surface, causing an earthquake, it is now generally recognized that earthquakes are due to a variety of causes. It is plain that some earthquakes are due to the explosions of steam, that are the chief characteristics of violent volcanic eruptions. Thus the terrific explosion that tore off the greater part of the island of Krakatoa (1883), was the cause of a violent earthquake. Earthquakes frequently precede volcanic outbursts and cease as the eruption begins. Again it is possible that in regions of present or recent volcanic activity when no volcanic outbreak accompanies or follows an earthquake the latter may have been caused by movements of molten rock deep underground.

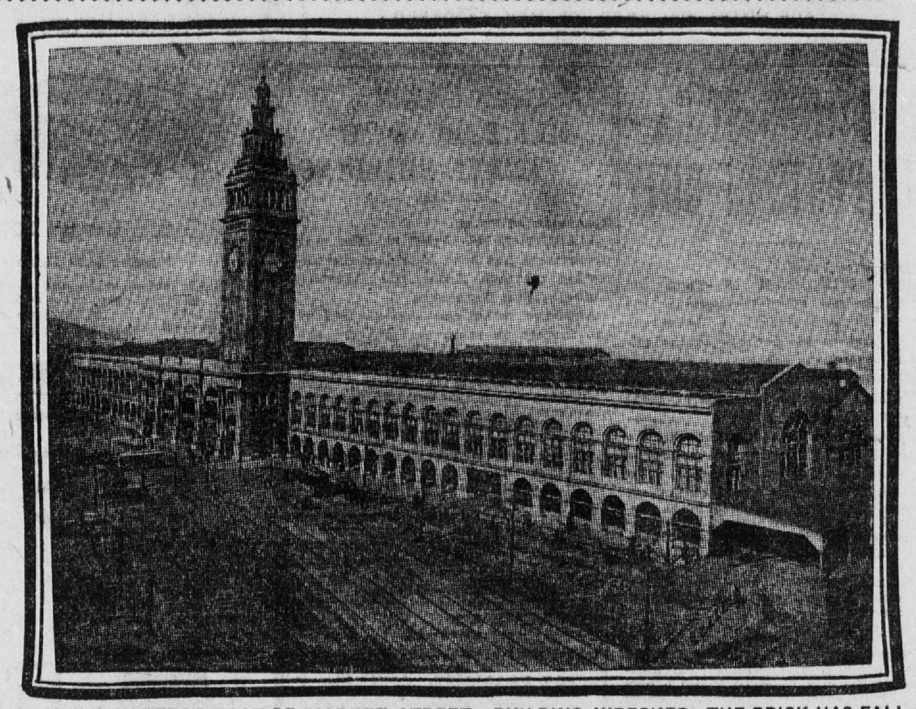
Mountain Building

The sudden explosion of such rock, if pressure were relieved by the opening of some fissure, as in the formation of dikes, might cause a severe earthquake. In regions remote from volcanoes it is possible that earthquakes are caused by the same stresses in the earth's crust, partly due to secular contraction, that tilt and fold rock strata into mountains. The strains to which the rocks are thus subject when suddenly relieved by the rock giving way produce many earthquakes. In fact, the slight earthquakes of frequent occurrence in the Alps, Himalayas, and in Southern Oregon, indicate that mountain building is still in progress. The seismic zone that encircles the earth is, therefore, simply a zone of weakness in the earth's crust, within which crustal movements are frequent.

Earthquakes in the regions remote from any volcano have usually, when carefully studied, been traced to some line of rock weakness as a fault. Such earthquakes are merely phenomena accompanying rock movements that may in time greatly modify the earth's surface. The frightful loss of life caused by some violent earthquakes has led to the geological importance being exaggerated. Many earthquakes in Japan are believed to be caused by accumulations of submarine sediments sliding down a steep slope of the continental shelf just east of Japan.

Effects of Earthquakes

Aside from the destruction of life and property the work done by most earthquakes is relatively unimportant. Of geological effects may be mentioned landslides in mountain regions, as in the earthquakes in 1870 in Northwestern Greece. Such landslides may divert the course of streams. Violent earthquakes are frequently accompanied by the opening of fissures in the ground, which may or may not close again. Several were formed in the Charleston earthquake, while the Mississippi valley earthquake resulted, apparently, in depressions of the surface over considerable areas. As noted before, earthquakes frequently accompany the formation of faults. Thus the Owens valley, Cal., earthquake (1872), accompanied the formation of faults along the base of the Sierra Nevada, the maximum throw being twenty feet. In the Lisbon earthquake that killed 60,000 people, the quay sank into the sea, with all the people near it. In the Clalbrain earthquake (1783), which killed 32,000 people, more than an hundred lakes and small swamps were formed. Lyell says an earthquake in the mouth of Indus (1819), resulted in forming a lake covering 2000 square miles. While downward displacements of the earth's crust are of common occurrence, elevations are much less common and some geologists deny that any elevation has ever been observed after an earthquake period.



UNION FERRY DEPOT, FOOT OF MARKET STREET. BUILDING WRECKED—THE BRICK HAS FALLEN, LEAVING THE STRUCTURAL IRON WORK EXPOSED

MAYOR MAKES APPEAL TO THE THEATERS

Last night Mayor McAleer issued the following appeal to the theaters in the city:

"APPEAL FOR AID.

"Acting upon recommendations of the relief committee of citizens this day organized by the city council, chamber of commerce and Merchants and Manufacturers' association, with which I heartily concur, it has been suggested as an evidence of sympathy for our fellow citizens of San Francisco and vicinity in their deep affliction that the theaters and places of amusement of Los Angeles donate the net proceeds of their entertainment for this evening to the fund now being collected by the citizens' relief committee.

"OWEN McALEER, Mayor."

DONATE ALL BALLOON ROUTE PROFITS TO FUND

The profits of the balloon route excursion of Saturday will be donated to the relief fund of San Francisco.

This fine trip, including ten beaches, eight cities and a 28-mile ride along the ocean front, will doubtless be taken advantage of by many beyond the usual quota of tourists.

Manager C. M. Pierce of the balloon route, has also announced that all profits at the Playa del Rey rink on Friday night will go to the relief fund.

Lawn Fete Postponed

The lawn fete to have been given at Paul de Longpre's beautiful place in Hollywood Saturday for the Vesuvius sufferers has been postponed. A week later it will be given but the proceeds will go to the San Francisco relief fund.

DAMAGES BY EARTHQUAKES

Lisbon earthquake, 1775, 60,000 killed.

Calabrian earthquake, 1783; 32,000 killed.

New Madrid, Mo., earthquake, 1811; loss of life small.

Charleston, S. C., earthquake, August 31, 1886; 1500 killed.

Fire, water and earthquakes are elements in human existence that have been dreaded and feared since the beginning of time. The great disaster that has visited San Francisco has directed attention to calamities that have befallen other sections of the world.

The great fire in Chicago in 1871 has gone into history as the most sweeping in damage and loss of life in modern times. That fire originated in a barn where a cow kicked over a lamp. The fire, driven by the stiff October wind, raged for two days, destroying 17,430 buildings, and the value of property destroyed was $195,000,000. Two hundred and fifty lives were lost.

The Boston fire in 1872, in the richest quarter of the city, covered an area of sixty-five acres and destroyed property valued at $75,000,000. Few lives were lost.

In New York in 1835, a great fire started in Merchant street and burned over fifty-two acres. Financial loss $15,000,000. In 1845 by fire in New York 300 buildings were destroyed; thirty-five lives lost.

Forest fires raged through Wisconsin and Michigan in 1871, burning 1000 persons to death and rendering 15,000 homeless.

In Portland, Me., July 4, 1866, fire destroyed one-half the city. In Philadelphia in 1850 there was a disastrous conflagration, thirty people losing their lives, and in 1865 another sweeping fire visited Philadelphia, twenty persons meeting death in the flames.

In 1851 part of the capitol at Washington and the congressional library were destroyed.

"The great fire" in London occurred in 1666, continuing from September 3 to 5, going over 435 acres, 400 streets, destroying 13,000 houses, St. Paul's church, 86 parish churches, six chapels, many hospitals and many other buildings. Total loss $50,000,000. In 1794 fire destroyed 600 buildings in London, and in 1834 the house of parliament was destroyed by fire.

Since 1729 historians state that 175,000 houses have been destroyed by fire in Constantinople, and that 8000 persons have lost their lives by fire.

Moscow in 1812 had a fire that destroyed 30,000 houses and property valued at $1,500,000,000 was consumed.

W. H. KNIGHT SAYS FUTURE OF CITY IS NOT WRECKED

William H. Knight, who for six years was president of the Southern California Academy of Science, gave The Herald the following interview regarding the terrible earthquake yesterday at San Francisco:

"Our sister city of San Francisco was visited yesterday by one of those appalling seismic disturbances which bring tremendous destruction of life and property, and for the moment undermine our confidence in the stability of mother earth.

"Shall we infer from this calamity that the proud metropolis of the Pacific coast is ruined and must henceforth be abandoned as a commercial mart, a residence town, or a place for investment?

"On the contrary we may now look for greater security from destructive earthquakes than ever before. There will indeed be a temporary lowering of real estate values. The short-sighted and unthinking will make haste to realize at any price, but those who take advantage of the earthquake panic and buy at the reduced figures will make good investments.

"Every portion of the earth's surface is subject to slight and more or less frequent tremors. At some time or other severe ones are liable to visit localities where least expected. In all historic time no notable earthquake had disturbed the placidity of the Mississippi valley till suddenly, in the year 1812, one of the most violent convulsions in recorded history shook Eastern Missouri and Southern Illinois.

Forests Sunk Out of Sight

"Land clothed with forests sunk out of sight and extensive lakes were formed. If St. Louis had been a great city such as it is today its fine buildings would have tottered and havoc would have ruled. Its fate would have resembled that of San Francisco yesterday.

"In 1886 the city of Charleston was shaken to its foundations by a shock that was felt as far north as Washington and as far west as Cincinnati. Such an event had not occurred before since the Huguenots colonized that region two centuries ago, and may not occur again in a thousand years.

"The Charleston people have rebuilt and feel secure, and their city shows no scars. New England, the northwest, Great Britain, the Scandinavian peninsula, have been startled by shocks of greater or less severity within historic times, yet their builders continue to erect cathedrals, palaces and even skyscrapers as if they were to repose undisturbed for ages.

Western Europe Rocked

"Previous to 1775 Portugal had been without alarming earthquake experience, but on a memorable day of that year all Western Europe was rocked, and a portion of the city of Lisbon fell into the sea, burying 40,000 inhabitants in its ruins. But the city was a capital and a port and it was rebuilt on a larger and a grander scale than before.

"Coming nearer home in the year 1812 a violent earthquake caused the death of many people at Capistrano, where they were gathered in a mission church for worship. The shock was felt throughout Southern California, but since that time, though we have felt minor tremors, no dangerous shock has visited us.

"It may be said that earthquakes are liable to visit any portion of the earth's surface, but save in volcanic countries, severe ones seldom visit the same locality twice. Vigorous San Francisco will quickly recuperate. She will at once set about clearing away the debris. In a short time the bustle and activity of rebuilding will prevail, and all visible evidences of the dire event will vanish. The ground is there and will remain as firm and solid for generations to come as it has for generations in the past.

Everything Will Remain

"The shores and headlands are there, staying the proud waves of old ocean. And the magnificent harbor is there for the shelter of the world's commerce and will be alive with shipping as heretofore. The smiling fields across the bay and in the valleys beyond will continue to bring their products to the city by the sea.

"The transcontinental railroads will continue to be busy with passengers and freight pouring in from every quarter of the country and of the globe. Look at Galveston—overwhelmed by the waves a few years ago. Pessimistic people thought it would never recover from the blow, but it is now like a young giant, stronger and more vigorous than ever.

"Remember how quickly Chicago and Boston and Baltimore recovered from their terrible conflagrations of fire. In a few months San Francisco will be busy rebuilding, and in five years will be a larger and handsomer city than ever. Our hearts go out to the aching hearts of our bereaved sister city today, but presently she will be again rejoicing in a brighter prosperity than she has ever known before."

THOUSANDS READ THE HERALD'S BULLETINS

Thousands of people crowded each other trying to get close enough to The Herald office yesterday in order that they might read the bulletins which were the first to be posted in Los Angeles.

At no time did the large crowd leave the sidewalk and street in front of the office. Everyone was eager to get the first report of any late news from the scene of the earthquake and the thousands came to The Herald office realizing any news that should be given out would be as reliable as could possibly be obtained.

Anxious faces watched the man who posted the bulletins, for few were the men and women in the assembled throng but that had friends and relatives in the doomed city. Eager and yet almost afraid were the people to read the bulletins for they feared that the news might come telling of the destruction of some building in which they knew that loved ones were staying.

If a man should leave after reading the bulletins there were half a dozen more who almost fought to secure his place. It was impossible for a pedestrian to pass in front of The Herald building unless he should cross to the opposite side of the street.

On the inside of the building the excitement was no less than near the bulletin boards. Several telephone operators were busy answering over as many trunk lines the inquiries of the many patrons and friends of The Herald regarding the actual condition of the city of San Francisco. This information was cheerfully and promptly given.

Many were not satisfied with reading the bulletin boards but sought to get the information from The Herald employes and all were treated courteously and were told as much concerning the actual situation as could be possibly learned with so many of the wires out of service.

DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEES POSTPONE MEET

When the news of the terrible disaster of San Francisco reached Los Angeles yesterday the members of the state, county and city central Democratic committees were preparing to meet in joint session to discuss the details of the coming campaign.

Full arrangements had been made for the reception of the guests from every quarter of the state and a banquet was to have been held last night in honor of the visitors and the party.

But all work was postponed indefinitely and the banquet was declared off. At a special meeting of the three committees at the Elks' hall yesterday afternoon resolutions of respect, comfort and sympathy were drawn up and sent north. Then the committees adjourned and the many visiting politicians from San Francisco and northern points hurried to the railroad offices and secured tickets for the special.

Following are the resolutions drawn up yesterday by the members of the committees:

"Whereas, one of those disasters which are sometimes visited upon mankind has tricken the city of San Francisco and other communities, and whereas, we, as citizens of California are appaled and grieved beyond expression, and in our hearts greatly sympathize with our brothers thus afflicted,

"Be it resolved, that the Democratic state central committee, the Los Angeles county Democratic central committee and the Los Angeles city Democratic central committee in joint session in the city of Los Angeles hereby convey to our neighbors in San Francisco and other communities affected, our heartfelt sympathy in this, the hour of general grief, pledging unto them any assistance within our power.

"And be it further resolved, that to further express our sympathy and sorrow, we do now adjourn.

"TIMOTHY SPELLACY,
Chairman state Democratic central committee.

"MILTON K. YOUNG,
Chairman Los Angeles county Democratic central committee.

"GEORGE M. CAKE,
Chairman Los Angeles city Democratic central committee."

SPECIAL MEETING OF CHAMBER OF COMMERCE CALLED

As soon as the message came from the north yesterday telling of the terrible disaster which had some to the city of San Francisco and the other towns along the coast, a special meeting of the chamber of commerce was called by President Washburn.

Deepest sympathy was expressed for the victims of the awful catastrophe and the following resolutions were adopted:

"Resolved: That the Los Angeles chamber of commerce hears, with consternation and the profoundest sympathy, of the terrible disaster which has befallen the chief city of our state. The disaster is so sudden and overwhelming that it appeals with imperative demand to all our citizens for all the aid of every kind which we can give to the stricken citizens of San Francisco, and to that end all our citizens are called upon to subscribe to the relief fund which this board of directors has instituted, and which will be carefully disbursed under the supervision and direction of a special committee of this board. Checks should be made payable to relief fund of the chamber of commerce.

"Resolved: That Messrs. W. J. Washburn, J. O. Koepfli, Jas. C. Kays, H. T. Lee, J. Baruch, F. Q. Story and Frank Wiggins be appointed a special committee to represent the chamber of commerce with full power to act in the matter of the relief of the cititzens of San Francisco."

The following subscriptions were made by the members of the board present at the meeting.

Bishop & Co.	$500
Dan Murphy	500
Gail B. Johnson	500
Cass & Smurr Stove Co.	200
F. Q. Story	200
J. C. Kays	100
W. J. Washburn	100
Oscar Mueller	100
H. T. Lee	100
Lee A. McConnell	100
A. W. Skinner	100

SAN FRANCISCO BANKS SOLID AS GIBRALTAR

It is agreed by local bankers that attention should be called to the probability of an announcement being made that some of the San Francisco banks may not reopen today, or perhaps for several days, but that it will signify nothing more than risk of personal danger.

W. C. Patterson of the First National bank said last night:

"The San Francisco banks are solid as a rock. In fact they have more cash than they know what to do with, and if any of them should fail to reopen tomorrow it will be naturally because of damaged buildings or risk of personal injury.

"There is nothing to be apprehended from that source, and it is just as well that the public be apprised of this fact, so that it may understand the situation."