

FIREMEN CONQUER FLAMES

Victory Is Won, but Cost Cannot Be Reckoned

Desolation Is Everywhere Apparent in the Stricken City

Golden Gate Park Becomes the Temporary Home of Thousands of Refugees Whose Courage Is Marvelous

By Arthur Welshans
Special to The Herald.

OAKLAND, April 20.—The flames have been conquered and the pall of disaster is now lifting from the ruins of San Francisco, leaving bare to the gaze of the world a specter of desolation such as the people of the United States have never before witnessed.

The flames were checked north of Telegraph hill, the western boundary being along Franklin street and California street, southeast to Market street.

The firemen checked the advance of flames by dynamiting the Dr. Rixford and the Hotelling residences and then back firing.

Many times before had the firemen made such an effort, but always previously had they met defeat.

Means Little for the City

But success at this hour means little for San Francisco. It stands for but the conquering of flames after the battle had been lost. Long ere the final struggle came San Francisco had perished. Its greatest had been lowered, its future terribly blighted. The flames are still burning fitfully about the city, but the spread of fire has been stopped.

Means the End of Losses

It is the end of losses, but for many days there will be smoke to carry its message aloft into the skies, and for months there will be the ruins to bring a reminder of the holocaust. Oakland has become the nearest and the logical place of refuge for the homeless thousands, who are leaving the doomed city across the bay by every boat.

Tonight 30,000 homeless ones are finding shelter and comfort in churches, halls and private residences of this city.

CITY IS PLUNGED IN TOTAL DARKNESS. SAYS LATEST REPORT

By Associated Press.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 20.—Plunged into absolute darkness tonight at 10 o'clock, San Francisco had 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 clean of buildings, was later veered around by a flood wind and made its way southerly to the immense sea wall sheds and grain warehouses.

Flames Near Ferry Building

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. The authorities considered conditions so grave that it was decided to swear in immediately 1000 special policemen armed with rifles furnished by the federal government.

Three Men Shot and Killed

In addition to this force, companies of the national guard arrived from many interior points. It was reported tonight that three white men had been shot and killed while attempting to work their way into the ruins of the United States sub-treasury on Commercial street.

Two Chinese were shot and killed on Market street for refusing to obey orders of the soldiery.

Six hundred laborers from the Ocean Shore railroad arrived tonight to look after the city's sewers to prevent an epidemic and the United Railway commenced its efforts to clean up some of the streets.

Tonight the main remaining fire was confined to 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 district and poured all malt and spirituous liquors into the gutters.

Flames Reach Gas Tanks

At 7 o'clock the flames had reached the tanks of the San Francisco Gas company, which had previously been pumped out and were burning the ends of the grain sheds, five in number, which extend further out toward the point.

Flame and smoke hid from view the vessels that lay off shore, vainly attempting to check the fire. No water was available except from the water side and it was not until almost dark that the department was able to turn its attention to this point.

Fire Nearly Checked

At 6 o'clock it was believed that the fire had been checked at Van Ness avenue and Filbert street. The buildings on a high slope between Van Ness and Polk, Union and Filbert streets were blazing fiercely, fanned by a high wind, but the blocks were so sparsely settled that the fire appeared to have but a slender chance of crossing Van Ness at this point.

Mayor Schmitz, who directed operations at this point, conferred with the military authorities and decided that it was not necessary to dynamite the

PESTILENCE THREATENS STRICKEN CITY EPIDEMIC FOLLOWS WORLD'S GREATEST CONFLAGRATION

buildings on the west side of Van Ness avenue. This would seem to assure the safety of what remains of the western addition. It is the only point of exposure to which this section of the city was subjected. As much of the fire department as could be collected was assembled to make a stand at this point.

ESTIMATED THAT 200,000 ARE NOW IN GOLDEN GATE PARK

By Associated Press.
SAN FRANCISCO, April 20.—The problem now confronting the city government and federal authorities is how to feed the multitude of destitute. Supplies are coming in by the trainload, but as yet the system of distribution is not in complete working order.

At the Presidio, where probably 50,000 people are camped, affairs are conducted with military precision. Water is plentiful and rations are dealt out all day long.

The refugees stand patiently in line and there is not a murmur. This characteristic is observable all over the city. The people are brave and patient and the wonderful order preserved by them has been of great assistance.

Two Hundred Thousand in Park

In Golden Gate park are encamped 200,000 people. They are being taken care of. A huge supply station has been established there and provisions are being dealt out.

Probably 100,000 more people are camped in vacant lots and squares scattered about the city and these are the unfortunates that are hard to reach.

The banks have not yet decided what to do. In all cases the vaults are intact, and as soon as quarters can be provided business will be resumed. Six hundred men from the ocean shore railway will arrive tonight with wagons and implements and will commence immediate work on the sewer system.

Inspectors are going from house to house examining chimneys and will issue permits to build fires.

KANSAS CITY SENDS TWO CARLOADS OF NEEDED PROVISIONS

KANSAS CITY, April 20.—The manufacturers and merchants of this city last night telegraphed the mayor of San Francisco that it was arranging to send two carloads of provisions free of charge to the homeless people of the stricken city and the provisions will be sent as soon as Mayor Schmitz is heard from.

Mayor Beardsley last night received a telegram from the governor of California stating that the people of San Francisco are in sore distress and asking that the people of Kansas City send a trainload of provisions immediately.

Mayor Beardsley called a meeting of the leading business men of the city and a plan was devised by which the train could be furnished and sent to San Francisco with the greatest expedition.

The business men of Kansas City last night subscribed \$10,000 for the San Francisco sufferers and an effort will be made to increase the amount to \$40,000 by Saturday.

OFFICIAL MESSAGE RECEIVED BY THE WAR DEPARTMENT

WASHINGTON, April 20.—The following telegram was received by the war department shortly after 11 o'clock this forenoon from General Funston:

"Burned district now approximately as follows:

"From water front up Broadway to Mason street, thence south to California street, thence to Jones, thence diagonally to Van Ness and Golden Gate avenues.

"All this line now actively burning.

"Fire on following line practically out:

"From Van Ness west to Golden Gate avenue to Fillmore, thence south to Market, thence on irregular line to Valencia and Twenty-sixth, thence irregular line east to bay.

"Indications are that active fire line will advance west to Van Ness and north to Union and Montgomery avenue. About 300,000 people homeless.

"Everything quiet. Troops co-operating with police.

"Famine seems inevitable. All large supply stores burned. Most energetic efforts from outside only can prevent frightful suffering. Weather now fine and it is expected to remain so. I request that everything possible be done in the way of food supplies, tentage and blankets. No more troops needed at present."

TELEGRAM FROM NEW MEXICO SAID TO BE MERE HOAX

By Associated Press.

TRINIDAD, Colo., April 20.—A report reached this city today in a dispatch to the Chronicle News from Folsom, N. M., signed E. R. Ran, that an earthquake had occurred there and that Mount Capulin was in eruption. Ran is not known here. The Colorado & Southern agent at Folsom, in answer to a telegram of inquiry wires as follows to the chief train dispatcher here:

"Can see no smoke here. Mount Capulin looks same as it always did. See no cause for alarm. Believe rumor a hoax. Did not feel any earthquake shocks here. So far as I know there were none."

Mount Capulin is 100 miles south of Trinidad.

THIRD HOLIDAY IS DECLARED BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

SACRAMENTO, April 20.—Gov. Pardee today issued a proclamation declaring tomorrow (Saturday) a legal holiday, "in the interest of public welfare," and in consequence no legal business can be transacted and all banks will remain closed.



RUINS OF GOOD FELLOWS' GRO TTO, WHICH STANDS OPPOSITE HALL OF RECORDS, CITY HALL

REFUGEES FLOCK ACROSS THE BAY

ESTIMATED THAT 200,000 ARE NOW IN OAKLAND

Every Street, Every Dooryard and Every Vacant Lot is Filled With Homeless Families

By Associated Press.

OAKLAND, April 20.—To feed and house the unfortunate people of San Francisco who have suddenly been bereft of their homes and means of livelihood is calling forth the best effort of the people of this city.

It is calculated that at least 200,000 people have come to this side of the bay and are now distributed among the homes of Oakland, Alameda and Berkeley. While hundreds have found lodging with friends, there are countless poor who are dependent upon charity.

Planning System of Distribution

The work of evolving a system for supplying the immediate wants of the people is a matter that is now in the process of organization. To get some sort of a scheme whereby those in need can get the necessities of life is receiving the attention of Governor Pardee, his staff, Mayor Mott and the local city government and civic organizations.

It is the general belief, however, that despite all efforts there is going to be great distress and that actual starvation stares many in the face unless immediate and a whole-souled aid is forthcoming.

CONGRESS MAY BE ASKED TO DOUBLE APPROPRIATION

WASHINGTON, April 20.—Secretary Taft, while testifying before the canal committee, read a message from the war department that another million dollars of money is needed to buy supplies for San Francisco sufferers. The secretary, after reading the message, said:

"We have already contracted for \$1,500,000 worth of stores and expenses incident to the work. This message, of course, should go to the house at once."

"He said that he would send it there for action."

"If I am guilty of an impeachable offense (referring to the law prohibiting expenditures in excess of appropriations) in connection with this disaster, I shall crave your indorsement of my course," he said in explanation of his desire to do everything possible for the sufferers without delay.

"Congress will acquit you," said Senator Tallaferro, and others assented feelingly.

REPORTS HONOLULU SLIPPING INTO THE BRINY DEEP

By Associated Press.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 20.—The Oriental liner China arrived in port tonight.

A report which cannot be confirmed is to the effect that the wireless telegraph system at Diamond Head, Honolulu, was in brief communication with the China this afternoon and reported that Honolulu was slipping into the sea.

Little credence is placed in the above report, which may be one of many rumors which have been spread since Wednesday.

PRESCOTT, ARIZONA, RAISES \$1000 FOR IMMEDIATE USE

By Associated Press.

PRESCOTT, Ariz., April 20.—The city council tonight passed resolutions of sympathy and wired Mayor Schmitz to draw on this municipality through the mayor for \$1000.

EXTRA FIVE O'CLOCK

IMPOSSIBLE TO SEND MESSAGES EVEN IF FORWARDED DELIVERY CANNOT BE MADE

San Francisco Citizens Scattered in All Directions and Army of Messenger Boys Would Prove Inadequate

By Associated Press.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 20.—The delivery of telegraphic messages from outside points to people in San Francisco is an impossibility.

The messenger service of both the big telegraphic companies no longer exists.

Even had the companies an army of messengers they would be of little value for the reason that the people are scattered far and wide and a journey from the ferry building to the Western addition, or to the refugee camps consumes many hours.

Automobiles Used

Most of the automobiles have been pressed into the service of the police or military authorities and these have but one circuitous route from the one telegraph station at the water front to municipal headquarters and the unswerving western portions.

This is by way of the northerly water front line. Nearly every other street has been made impassable by the fallen portions of buildings.

The only wire running out of San Francisco, that of the Postal company, was accidentally cut this morning by a workman on the cable wharf and for hours the city was again cut off from outside points.

ODD FELLOWS TO SEND SUPPLIES TO MEMBERS' FAMILIES

By Associated Press.

OAKLAND, April 20.—W. W. Phelps, grand master of the I. O. O. F., has arrived in Oakland and opened temporary headquarters.

He has issued an appeal for aid to every lodge in America and a special request to the lodges of California outside of the stricken area.

The general relief committees of San Francisco will have charge of rendering relief to every member of the order, his wife and children.

The entire plan for relief will be sent to the Hon. F. B. Ogden, grand warden, whom the grand master has appointed as special disbursing officer. Committees have been appointed and a thorough organization has been affected whereby the relief obtained from the 1,500,000 members of the order will be distributed.

HARRIMAN GIVES \$200,000 FOR THE RELIEF OF SUFFERERS

By Associated Press.

OMAHA, April 20.—E. H. Harriman, president of the Union Pacific, the Oregon Railroad and Navigation company, the Oregon Short Line and the Southern Pacific, today authorized the expenditure of \$200,000 in relief work in San Francisco.

In addition to this all the above lines will haul all relief supplies free of charge and in many cases they will be forwarded on passenger trains with expedited service.

MRS. W. K. VANDERBILT LOSES 400 HOUSES WITH NO INSURANCE

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GOLDEN GATE PARK IS SCENE OF MANY UNWRITTEN STORIES

BY HERALD STAFF CORRESPONDENT.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 20.—Golden Gate park, commonly called San Francisco's great playground, has become a hospital, nursery and home for countless thousands. Man will never be able to write the stories to be found there tonight.

Artists will never be able to paint the pictures revealed from hour to hour.

Tents are everywhere, but they are far from sufficient to house the throngs of refugees. Whole families, rich and poor, the educated and the uneducated, Americans and men and women from every nation in the world are there.

During the afternoon five babes first saw the light of day in Golden Gate park. Every attention has been given the mothers and no effort has been too great for big hearted men and women to see that medical attention and every care was at the command of all such cases.

Years in the future, when San Francisco will have risen as though from the dead, men and women who were born in a tent in Golden Gate park will command the attention of the world as they relate what their parents have revealed to them about the circumstances surrounding their birth.

Tomorrow other thousands will enter the park. Some of them never to leave it again alive, for the pretty green swards also represent a hospital for the sick, injured and dying, and the life light will go out from hundreds of lives just as many babes will first utter their first cry, the first earthly sound of every thing human, in the great tent city.

San Francisco's Famous Play Ground Becomes Home, Hospital and Nursery for Those Who Have Lost Their All by the Terrible Disaster of the Last Few Days

marriage was Miss Therese Alice Fair of California, daughter of Senator James G. Fair and sister of Mrs. Vanderbilt, Jr., and who was prostrated yesterday at her Fifth avenue home over the anxiety for her relatives and friends and the loss of a great part of her fortune in the San Francisco disaster.

It was only recently that Mrs. Oelrichs traded her Fairmont hotel for the Rialto and Crosby buildings. Both these buildings are near the corner of Mission and Montgomery streets and both are reported to have been demolished.

Mrs. W. K. Vanderbilt, Jr., who owned four hundred houses on Mission street, is now at her home at Great Neck, L. I.

She has tried to communicate by telegraph with her relatives and friends but to no avail. It is said that all the houses she owned have been destroyed. None of them was insured.

VICTORIA, B. C., TO SEND BY STEAMER FILLED WITH FOOD

By Associated Press.

VICTORIA, B. C., April 20.—The steamer Tellus will leave here at 5 p. m. with provisions to aid the distressed at San Francisco. Twain stepped to the front of the Canadian Bank of Commerce has subscribed \$25,000 to the relief of the sufferers.

MARK TWAIN MAKES APPEAL AT NEW YORK FOR THE SUFFERERS

By Associated Press.

NEW YORK, April 20.—After an address last night before a large audience in Carnegie hall for the benefit of the Robert Fulton Memorial association fund, Mark Twain stepped to the front of the stage and said:

"Let me add this final word. I offer an appeal in behalf of that multitude of that pathetic army of fathers, mothers and helpless children, sheltered and happy two days ago, now wandering homeless, forlorn and homeless—victims of immeasurable disaster.

"I say I beg of you in your heart and with your purses to remember San Francisco, the smitten city."

GOVERNOR PARDEE THANKS NATION FOR IMMEDIATE RELIEF

By Associated Press.

WASHINGTON, April 20.—The California delegation is in receipt of the following telegram from Gov. Pardee: "OAKLAND, April 20.—California delegation, care of Hon. J. R. Knowland, house of representatives: Thanks of people of California for nation's generosity. Give my personal thanks to each member of delegation and tell Kahn that Mrs. Kahn is safe and well."

Senator Perkins received the following telegram from Gov. Pardee: "All of California applauds nation's generosity. Three hundred thousand homeless."

ALL CHURCHES TO SET ASIDE SUNDAY AS DAY OF PRAYER

By Associated Press.

NEW YORK, April 20.—A message requesting that all churches of all denominations in the United States set apart next Sunday as a day of special prayer for those suffering from the earthquake in San Francisco and other parts of the Pacific coast, was sent out

INNOCENT PEOPLE SHOT

SAN FRANCISCO, April 20.—The soldiers, worn down and thirsty, broke into saloons to get water or liquor to brace them up. Many of them got drunk and the result was that they shot many innocent people. That is a simple truth. And yet the soldiers are not all to blame. They are on constant duty and are worn out. Liquor that ordinarily would stimulate intoxicated, and therein lies the trouble. They have not enough food and no water. The militia of the state should be rushed to San Francisco to relieve them.