

THE CITIES ARE RAZED BY FIRE AND FLOOD. REGGIO AND MESSINA PILLAGED BY GHOULS

Fifty Thousand Dead in Former City—All Ports Wrecked—Navigation Impossible. Straits Twisted So Ships Cannot Pass

The tidal wave. The water reached to the shoulders of the fugitives and swept them away. "The city hall, the cathedral and the barracks crumbled, and churches, other public buildings and dwellings were literally razed.

"There were 200 customs agents at the barracks; only forty-one of them were saved. "At the railroad station only eight out of 280 employes have been accounted for."

The previous reports from the provinces that a number of villages were ravaged have been confirmed. Seventeen persons are dead at Riposto. The town of Seminara, in Calabria, is said to have been destroyed with the loss of a hundred lives.

The work of rescue at Messina, according to the meager details received here tonight, presented harrowing scenes. Hundreds of people were pinned under walls and rafters alive. One of the rescuers found under the ruins of a house five children alive but unable to speak, lying around the corpse of their mother.

Heretic Rescuers Meet Death. In some cases heroic rescuers met death in the falling debris. In one house twenty persons were suspended on the fifth floor and unable to reach the street because the lower floors had been torn away and were rescued with a rope by a sailor.

Some of Latest Reports. Refugees from Messina to Palermo say there were 100 foreigners in the Hotel Trinacria, and that they all lost their lives. The hotel has been completely obliterated. It was one of the best in

GHOULS STRIP DEAD AND PILLAGE RUINS OF CITIES

ROME, Dec. 29.—The disaster in the province of Calabria and the island of Sicily has assumed staggering proportions. Each successive report received from the stricken region makes it more apparent that the first stories of the widespread destruction were little, if any, exaggerated.

Reports are coming in from several smaller towns giving estimates of dead from 500 up to several thousand in each of them. Reggio still remains in its isolation. It is impossible to get word from the stricken city, and the silence gives rise to the most fearful apprehensions.

News has come from Messina, eight miles north of Reggio, but no reliable estimate of the dead there has been made. Vandalism of the worst kind has broken out and the government has adopted the most strict measures for its restriction. Robbers and looters are shot on sight.

The prison at Messina collapsed, some of the prisoners being killed, but the survivors made their escape and joined the vandals who were sacking the city. Such confusion reigned that the robbers met with no resistance.

Police Chief Dead. The local chief of police lies dead in the ruins of his office. The barracks at Messina were demolished. The commander of the troops who killed out-right and there are many victims among the enlisted men.

The government last night sent Gen. Feirreria di Cossati, an army corps commander, to take full charge of an in-creased force of troops in the devastated territory. One of the first moves will be to declare martial law. The robbers pillaging the ruins of shattered buildings even stole clothing and valuables from the corpses of the victims.

They were not deterred by the flames that broke out in several sections of the city, but took advantage of the light for their vandalism. The night in Messina was one of horror indescribable—fire, robbery, death and dying on every side, the city in the utmost confusion and the people under a spell of terror.

ITALIAN RULERS ON WAY TO SCENE OF CATAclysm

ROME, Dec. 29.—Queen Helena has refused to allow her husband, the king, to go alone to the scene of the disaster. She said she would not give up her privilege of sharing her husband's dangers, and consequently both king and queen left Rome this afternoon for the south.

The royal couple arrived earlier in the day from Naples. The queen explained to a member of her entourage that she considered it her duty to do all in her power to comfort and help the afflicted subjects.

The king and queen left the railroad station here at 1:30 p. m. A number of ministers, senators and deputies, together with the mayor of Rome, were at the station to bid them farewell.

It was announced here this forenoon that his holiness, Pope Pius X, will inaugurate the establishment of an international committee of Catholics the day after tomorrow to assist the survivors of the catastrophe.

His holiness heads the subscription list with \$500,000 lire (\$200,000). The committee will give 2,000,000 lire for the relief of the victims.

Ambassador Grisom was the only

REFUGEES MADDENED BY TERROR REACH PALERMO

PALERMO, Dec. 29.—Railroad communication with Messina has been restored. A train of refugees came in here this morning, but they are all maddened with terror and no one is capable of giving a connected account of the catastrophe.

All agree, however, that Messina has been destroyed and the victims will be counted by the tens of thousands. The Trinacria hotel, with ninety guests, was demolished. The city hall, the bourse, the telegraphic office and the barracks also were destroyed.

A tidal wave thirty feet high swept up three streets of the city in the height of the confusion following the shock. Hundreds of half-dressed men, women and children who had fled from their houses to the streets, were caught in the onrush of water and drowned or injured.

A train load of doctors, nurses and hospital equipment has been sent out from here for Messina and the steamer Margherita, loaded to the rails with persons who had relatives in the doomed city, and others who will join in the relief work also has left for Messina. The refugees declare the entire

REFUGEE TELLS OF AWFUL DESTRUCTION OF MESSINA

CATANIA, Sicily, Dec. 29.—Mount Etna is this morning showing considerable activity, and the detonations which can be plainly heard in this city, together with the volume of smoke rolling out of the crater, have added to the pain of the people of the city in the straits.

According to the director of the local observatory, this activity is directly connected with the earthquakes of yesterday which wrought such havoc in Calabria and Sicily, but a great eruption is not expected.

Such phenomena seldom accompany violent seismic disturbances. The following graphic story is told by a woman who arrived here from Messina this morning, badly injured: "Infernal is the only word that adequately describes the fearful and terrifying scene, and the detonations which were heard from the mountain of Etna.

"When the first shock came most of the city was fast asleep. I was awakened by the rocking of the house. Windows swayed and rattled and crockery and glass crashed to the floor. "The next moment I was violently thrown out of my bed to the floor.

"I was half stunned, but knew the only thing to do was to make my way outdoors. The streets were filled. "Everybody had rushed out in their night clothes, heedless of the rain falling in torrents. Terrified shrieks arose from all sides, and we heard frantic appeals for help from the unfortunates pinned beneath the ruins.

"Walls were tottering all around us and not one of our party expected to escape alive. My brothers and sisters were with me, and in a frenzy of terror we groped our way through the streets holding our own against the panic-stricken people, clambering over piles of ruins, until we finally reached a place of comparative safety.

"But this was not done before I was struck down and badly injured by a piece of furniture that fell out of the upper story of a house. "I lay alone, feeling people, half clad like myself, were groping for me, and as if this were not enough, there suddenly shot up into the sky a huge burst of flame, followed by a crash that seemed to shake the whole town. This probably was the gas works blowing up.

"Eventually we reached the principal square of Messina. Here we found 2000 or 3000 utterly terrified people assembled. None of us knew what to do. We were all in agony of fear. "King Victor Emmanuel, queen Helena and the queen followed by the pope, were seen in the distance, and we saw one of the big buildings on the square collapse. It seemed to me that scores of persons were buried beneath the ruins. Then I lost consciousness. I remember no more."

ROME, Dec. 29.—The earthquake, according to every report, wrecked city after city in Southern Italy, obliterating smaller towns and villages without number. The tidal wave swept along the Straits of Messina and added to the horror, drowning the people in their helplessness and panic.

Fire came to complete the work of destruction. Flames broke out in the devastated cities and countless numbers of injured men, women and children were burned to death. An adequate estimate of the total casualties is as yet quite impossible, but the Rome Tribuna places the number at between 50,000 and 70,000.

The horror and destructiveness of this visitation probably will exceed that of any earthquake in the history of the world. In 1783 40,000 persons perished at Messina from an earthquake. Reports of heavy loss of life are coming in every hour from city and town and nearly every village in the stricken zone. The story in its detail has only begun to be told.

The horror grows as further reports come in. Messina has been fire-swept. The dead there alone will run into the tens of thousands. Reggio is a sepulcher of the dead. Catania suffered heavily. Mount Etna, the volcano on the

STRICKEN DISTRICT WAS SOURCE OF GREAT TRADE

NEW YORK, Dec. 29.—The news of the earthquake in southern Italy, with its appalling loss of life, was received in the several Italian colonies in this city with every evidence of keen distress. Of the half million or more Italians here fully 200,000 are from the stricken districts. Thousands upon thousands have families, relatives and friends in Calabria and Sicily.

Many hastened to the office of the Italian consul general or the various Italian newspapers, only to have their worst fears confirmed. New York city has two extensive quarters given over to Italians almost exclusively, besides many smaller ones.

AMERICAN DIPLOMAT AND HIS WIFE AMONG VICTIMS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—That Arthur S. Cheney, American consul at Messina, Sicily, and his wife lost their lives in the earthquake which devastated that city yesterday is indicated by the official dispatch received tonight by the state department from Stuart Lupton, American vice consul at Messina.

The following dispatch came via Malta, Maltese islands, in the Mediterranean, being received there by wireless from Messina by Consul William H. Gale and transmitted by him to the state department: "The Messina consulate destroyed and consul and wife supposed to be dead."

"Lupton." Consul Gale, in forwarding the dispatch by cable, added that Lupton is supposed to have escaped. He stated that a British warship had left Malta for Messina to assist in the work of rescue.

Telegraphic reports have been received here from all parts of the island of Sicily. They say that the inhabitants of the straits are terror-stricken and praying in the streets and churches.

Reggio is described as nothing but a vast sepulcher. The captain of the steamer Washington, which was in the Straits of Messina at the time of the earthquake, says his vessel shuddered if she had run aground, a thick fog prevailed at the time, and it was impossible for him to see the Messina lighthouse or the Calabrian coast. The Washington was surrounded with boats appealing for aid.

The people were taken on board. The sea was littered with wreckage in every direction. Among those who lost their lives at Messina are Commandant Passino and all the members of his family. The Russian warships that were at Syracuse also have left for Messina to aid in the work of rescue.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—President Roosevelt, through the state department today sent to King Victor Emmanuel of Italy a dispatch expressing his horror and that of the American people over the disaster which has befallen southern Italy and Sicily by the earthquake visitation, and tendering sincere sympathy.

The president also notes that the American National Red Cross has issued an appeal for contributions to aid the sufferers, and that the organization has notified him that it will immediately communicate with the Italian Red Cross.

As private cablegram after cablegram confirmed the frightful extent of the catastrophe, the Italian embassy attaches freely expressed their grief. Ambassador Mayor des Planches is hastening to Washington from New York, having left the city for a brief rest during the holidays.

Following is the text of the president's message to the king of Italy: "His Majesty, Victor Emmanuel, Rome. I am proud to share with you, my countrymen, the grief of the dreadful calamity which has befallen your country. I offer my sincerest sympathy. The American National Red Cross has issued appeals for contributions for sufferers and notified me that they will immediately communicate with the Italian Red Cross."

"THEODORE ROOSEVELT." The American National Red Cross today sent a telegram to the Italian Red Cross president, William H. Taft, to the Italian Red Cross at Rome in the following language: "The American Red Cross desires to tender to the Italian Red Cross its profound sympathy because of the terrible earthquake in Italy and Calabria. An appeal has been issued by the American Red Cross for contributions for the relief of the sufferers."

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—The American National Red Cross today sent out telegrams to the Italian Red Cross for relief funds to be applied to the sufferers from the earthquake in southern Italy. The Red Cross society also requested the state department to extend to the American ambassador expressions of sympathy from the American society to the Italian Red Cross and to inquire to what extent relief measures will be needed.

The Red Cross will have to wait until contributions are received in response to the appeal sent out today, as the balance remaining in the treasury is but \$200,000, which will be kept in reserve for emergencies within the United States.

On the occasion of the eruption of Vesuvius \$125,000 was sent to Italy by the American Red Cross. There are no American naval vessels in the vicinity of southern Italy. The Scorpion, which is at Constantinople, has been ordered to the North Sea by the navy department because of the disaster there and any other American naval vessel.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—The whole of the United Kingdom is in the grip of a blizzard of exceptional violence, especially Scotland and the north of Ireland. It has raged for the last forty-eight hours, accompanied by very low temperature and a driving wind that has completely disorganized the Northern railway service and caused suspension of all street traffic.

Many towns are isolated and a number of accidents and deaths from exposure have been reported. There also have been several shipwreck casualties, but fortunately these were not attended by serious loss of life. London is covered with a mantle of snow several inches in depth, while in Scotland and the north of Wales snowdrifts have blocked roadways and railways.

The cross channel passenger service and the telegraph and telephone lines in all directions have been suspended. All outdoor labor has ceased. Places to Send Relief. NEW YORK, Dec. 29.—Count Massigli, the Italian consul here, has issued the following statement: "Subscriptions for the relief of the victims of the earthquake in Sicily and Calabria are officially open at the consulate general in New York city, at the Italian chamber of commerce, 263 Broadway, and at the office of the Italian Red Cross, 69 Wall street. The amount of these subscriptions will be sent at once to the Italian Red Cross in Rome, whose efficient relief of past calamities have been universally recognized."

Italians in Consternation. CHICAGO, Dec. 29.—The earthquake in southern Italy has thrown Chicago's Italians into a state of consternation and despair. The Italian consulate was in all directions crowded with friends and relatives, and several Italian theaters closed their doors. At the Bella Italia, a favorite gathering place on Des Plaines street, several hundred listened while one of them translated the English columns into Italian. His voice was frequently drowned by cries and sobs and the shrieks of hysterical women.

Ships Sail for Scene. MALTA, Dec. 29.—The British battleship Exmouth and the cruisers Eurypylus and Minerva, commanded by Admiral Sir Ashton-Crofton-Howe, left here today for Messina to render every assistance possible to the survivors of the disaster. The British cruiser Sutherland was on her way from Messina to the stricken district, but was intercepted by wireless last night and sent back to Messina.

Many Troops Leave Rome. ROME, Dec. 29.—The government is sending troops with the utmost dispatch, by land and sea, to the scene of the earthquake disaster. Four thousand men from the garrison at Rome already are on their way. The Tribuna publishes an interview with a refugee who made his way into Monteleone in Calabria. This man says the entire country side is crowded with victims of the desolation.

1500 Dead in Two Towns. ROME, Dec. 29.—Reports have just been received from two towns in Calabria—Cassano and Cosenza. Cassano is said to have 1000 dead, while the wounded number 500. At Cosenza 600

of the frightened people now, but on a much larger scale. Two Italian newspapers, the Ballatino Della Sera and the Progresso, each headed a subscription list started in their columns by subscribing \$500 each. Two other Italian newspapers, L'Usaldo and Telegrafo, have advised their readers to send contributions direct to the Red Cross, explaining that the money would reach its destination much quicker in that way.

All of the Italian newspapers issued extra additions today giving translations of the cable dispatches brought to this city to describe the horror. The American National Red Cross of which President-elect Taft is the head, has offered its services in co-operation with the Italian Red Cross. The New York state branch has today issued a call for aid.

Mayor Desplanches, the Italian ambassador to the United States, is expected to reach this city late tonight from Montreal. Though the regular Mediterranean tourist season has not yet started, there nevertheless were hundreds of Americans in Calabria and Sicily, and there are grave fears for their safety. Captain Charles C. Fenger, formerly in the federal service here, and his wife, who have been traveling in Italy, and ten days ago word was received from them they were about to leave Rome for Reggio.

Consul Gale, in forwarding the dispatch by cable, added that Lupton is supposed to have escaped. He stated that a British warship had left Malta for Messina to assist in the work of rescue.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—President Roosevelt, through the state department today sent to King Victor Emmanuel of Italy a dispatch expressing his horror and that of the American people over the disaster which has befallen southern Italy and Sicily by the earthquake visitation, and tendering sincere sympathy.

The president also notes that the American National Red Cross has issued an appeal for contributions to aid the sufferers, and that the organization has notified him that it will immediately communicate with the Italian Red Cross.

As private cablegram after cablegram confirmed the frightful extent of the catastrophe, the Italian embassy attaches freely expressed their grief. Ambassador Mayor des Planches is hastening to Washington from New York, having left the city for a brief rest during the holidays.

Following is the text of the president's message to the king of Italy: "His Majesty, Victor Emmanuel, Rome. I am proud to share with you, my countrymen, the grief of the dreadful calamity which has befallen your country. I offer my sincerest sympathy. The American National Red Cross has issued appeals for contributions for sufferers and notified me that they will immediately communicate with the Italian Red Cross."

"THEODORE ROOSEVELT." The American National Red Cross today sent a telegram to the Italian Red Cross president, William H. Taft, to the Italian Red Cross at Rome in the following language: "The American Red Cross desires to tender to the Italian Red Cross its profound sympathy because of the terrible earthquake in Italy and Calabria. An appeal has been issued by the American Red Cross for contributions for the relief of the sufferers."

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—The American National Red Cross today sent out telegrams to the Italian Red Cross for relief funds to be applied to the sufferers from the earthquake in southern Italy. The Red Cross society also requested the state department to extend to the American ambassador expressions of sympathy from the American society to the Italian Red Cross and to inquire to what extent relief measures will be needed.

The Red Cross will have to wait until contributions are received in response to the appeal sent out today, as the balance remaining in the treasury is but \$200,000, which will be kept in reserve for emergencies within the United States.

On the occasion of the eruption of Vesuvius \$125,000 was sent to Italy by the American Red Cross. There are no American naval vessels in the vicinity of southern Italy. The Scorpion, which is at Constantinople, has been ordered to the North Sea by the navy department because of the disaster there and any other American naval vessel.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—The whole of the United Kingdom is in the grip of a blizzard of exceptional violence, especially Scotland and the north of Ireland. It has raged for the last forty-eight hours, accompanied by very low temperature and a driving wind that has completely disorganized the Northern railway service and caused suspension of all street traffic.

Many towns are isolated and a number of accidents and deaths from exposure have been reported. There also have been several shipwreck casualties, but fortunately these were not attended by serious loss of life. London is covered with a mantle of snow several inches in depth, while in Scotland and the north of Wales snowdrifts have blocked roadways and railways.

The cross channel passenger service and the telegraph and telephone lines in all directions have been suspended. All outdoor labor has ceased. Places to Send Relief. NEW YORK, Dec. 29.—Count Massigli, the Italian consul here, has issued the following statement: "Subscriptions for the relief of the victims of the earthquake in Sicily and Calabria are officially open at the consulate general in New York city, at the Italian chamber of commerce, 263 Broadway, and at the office of the Italian Red Cross, 69 Wall street. The amount of these subscriptions will be sent at once to the Italian Red Cross in Rome, whose efficient relief of past calamities have been universally recognized."

Italians in Consternation. CHICAGO, Dec. 29.—The earthquake in southern Italy has thrown Chicago's Italians into a state of consternation and despair. The Italian consulate was in all directions crowded with friends and relatives, and several Italian theaters closed their doors. At the Bella Italia, a favorite gathering place on Des Plaines street, several hundred listened while one of them translated the English columns into Italian. His voice was frequently drowned by cries and sobs and the shrieks of hysterical women.

Ships Sail for Scene. MALTA, Dec. 29.—The British battleship Exmouth and the cruisers Eurypylus and Minerva, commanded by Admiral Sir Ashton-Crofton-Howe, left here today for Messina to render every assistance possible to the survivors of the disaster. The British cruiser Sutherland was on her way from Messina to the stricken district, but was intercepted by wireless last night and sent back to Messina.

AMUSEMENTS. ORPHEUM THEATER. VAUDEVILLE. Matinee Today. Felice Morris & Co. Gaston Green. Linton & Laurence. "Happy Jack" Gardner. ORPHEUM MOTION PICTURES. Nights, 10-25-50-75c. Matinee every day Both Phones 1447.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE. Special holiday matinee Friday, New Year's, 1909. Both phones 1847. Matinee Tuesday, Saturday, Sunday. THE TOYMAKER. Second big week. Fray toys to all children at week day regular matinee. Nights—15c, 25c, 35c, 50c. Next week—"IT HAPPENED IN NORDLAND." First time in this city. Matinee—10c, 25c.

MOROSCO'S BURBANK THEATER. LOS ANGELES LEADING STOCK HOUSE. Of the season, "ZIRA." All the favorites of the incomparable Burbank stock company in the cast. Regular Burbank prices: 10c, 25c, 35c, 50c. To follow—"The furiously funny farce, 'NANCY AND CO.'" HAMBURGER'S MAJESTIC THEATER. OLIVER MOROSCO, Lessee and Manager. Broadway, between 8th and 9th. ALL WEEK—Professional Matinee Today—ALL WEEK. J. R. Stirling. Rose Melville in Sis Hopkins. Popular prices for this engagement. Night prices: 25c, 35c, 50c, 75c. A few front rows \$1. Wednesday, New Year's day and Saturday matinee 15c, 25c, 35c, 50c. A few front rows 75c. To follow—MURRAY AND MACK in "THE SUNNY SIDE OF BROADWAY."

THE AUDITORIUM. "THEATER BEAUTIFUL." ERNEST CRAWFORD, MANAGER. THURSDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 31, AT 8 O'CLOCK. "A Merry Heart Doeth Good Like a Medicine." GOOD MEDICINE. Humorous lecture by ROBERT J. BURDETTE. Warranted to cure melancholia, chronic blues, "that tired feeling" and acute grouches. Has been known to promote mirth, excite the display of dimples and cause hilarity in the most hopeless patients. Failures of other physicians solicited. Special treatment for confirmed pessimists. All operations warranted painless. Laughing gas administered. Seats on sale at box office—25c, 50c.

MASON OPERA HOUSE. THE LAMBARDI GRAND OPERA CO. Tonight LA BOHEME. Seats selling for all performances. Prices: 75c, \$1.00, \$1.50, \$2.00. Curtain 8 p. m. sharp. No one seated after rise of curtain.

BELASCO THEATER. Tonight, all this week, Lewis S. Stone and the Belasco theater company giving the first presentation in this city of N. C. Goodwin's success, THE EASTERNER. Regular matinees tomorrow, Saturday and Sunday. Special New Year's day matinee Friday. Usual Belasco prices: Nights, 25c, 35c, 50c and 75c. Matinee, 25c and 50c. Next week—Paul Armstrong's great comedy-drama, "THE HEIR TO THE HOORAH." Seats now on sale.

WALKER THEATRE. ENTIRE NEW BILL—8 BIG NUMBERS—8 SULLIVAN AND CONSIDINE CIRCUIT The Best Vaudeville. Featuring Pearlita in her "Dance of the 4 Seasons," Hazel & Hawkins, "Pink Teas" comedy, Hass & Florida, banjoists; Haverly & Wells, "The Gabbers from Gabville," Walkerscope Travelites through Sweden; Miss Wharton in new ballads. Full orchestra, new motion pictures. Prices 10c, 25c, 35c, all seats reserved. Curtain at 8:15. Biggest money's worth in town. Refined amusement. MATINEE NEW YEAR'S DAY.

UNIQUE THEATER. HENTZ & ZALLEE, Props. 629 South Broadway. Week Dec. 28—ARMSTRONG MUSICAL COMEDY CO. present the funniest of funny farces. Illustrated song, Unique-8-Scopes latest moving pictures. Matinee Mon., Wed., Sat., Sun. Evenings continuous performances. Ladies' Souvenirs Wed. and Sat. matinee. Popular prices. Special matinee New Year's day.

FISCHER'S THEATER. First street, between Spring and Main. E. A. FISCHER, Proprietor and Manager. For the week commencing Monday, Dec. 28, Manager Fischer offers Charles Alpin's original musical comedy, POPPYLAND. Book, lyrics and music by Mr. Alpin, under whose direction the piece is staged. Regular prices. Two shows nightly and daily matinee.

LOS ANGELES THEATER. Fashionable Vaudeville. EVERY DAY BARGAIN MATINEE 10c AND 20c. EVERY NIGHT 10c, 20c, 50c.

PEOPLE'S THEATER. 523 South Main Street. Phone: Main 5129, F1824. This week, matinee Wednesday and Friday (New Year's day) and Saturday, Charles E. Fennel in the best of all farces, "ROBERT EMMETT." Regular prices 10c, 25c, 35c and 50c; matinee 10c and 25c.

LOS ANGELES RACING ASSOCIATION. 6 RACES EVERY WEEK DAY. 6 Rain or Shine 6. First Race at 1:50 P. M. Santa Anita Park. Pacific Electric and Southern Pacific Race Trains direct to grand stand. ROUND TRIP 25c. ADMISSION \$1.00.

The First Great Event of the New Year. Tournament of Roses PASADENA. Friday, January 1st. Gorgeous Floral Pageant. —OF— Beautifully Decorated Vehicles. GRAND ROMAN CHARIOT RACES. 25 Cents for the Round Trip. Through Trains. Every TWO MINUTES from the Pacific Electric Railway. Terminal Station, Sixth and Main Streets.

dead already have been taken from the Cassano has 6700 population, the Cosenza is the center of a community with a population of 21,000.

San Francisco Responsive. SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 29.—Mayor Taylor issued a proclamation this afternoon stating that the response for aid for the suffering people of Italy will doubtless be quick and generous in this city and requesting that all treasurer of the California branch of the American Red Cross, 502 California street, San Francisco. Contributions also will be received by Benjamin Ide Wheeler, secretary of the Missouri branch of the Red Cross at Berkeley.

Red Cross Collects Aid. ST. LOUIS, Dec. 29.—Leighton Shields, secretary of the Missouri branch of the National Red Cross society, took immediate steps today toward the collection of funds to be sent to the earthquake sufferers in Italy. "The Italian Red Cross society responded nobly when San Francisco was devastated," said Mr. Shields. "We should do as much for them."

100 Foreigners Under Ruins. ROME, Dec. 29.—The minister of the interior has received a telegram from Messina saying that the bodies of seventy English travelers and thirty Germans were buried beneath the ruins of the Hotel Trinacria, Hotel Victoria and Hotel Bellevue at Messina.

Warships Ordered to Messina. PARIS, Dec. 29.—The minister of marine has ordered the French battleships Justice and Verite, and three torpedo boat destroyers to proceed to Messina to succor the victims.

50,000 Dead at Messina. ROME, Dec. 29.—The minister of marine at 5 p. m. today received a wireless (Continued on Page Three)