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NUMBER 1

ISLANDS NOT DESTROYED

Sinking of Italian Ship and Loss of 28,000 Lives Incorrect

ARE DEAD AT REGGIO

Arriving at Rome and Naples Confirm First Reports of Extent Disaster—Many Children Separated from Parents Who Can Not Be Found—Queen Made Ill by Scenes

Rome, Jan. 1.—The Lipari islands not been destroyed, as reported tonight, nor has there been any loss of life there. This news has just been received in the city by the government to investigate the sinking of the Italian ship, the *Regio*, which was reported to have been destroyed by a strong earthquake which was experienced thru the island Monday, but there were no fatalities.

An official dispatch from Reggio says that the death list is 20,000.

Queen is Overwhelmed

The presence of the king and queen in Italy in the stricken district has done much to infuse means at the disposal of the relief committees. Confronted with the means at the disposal of the rescue workers, the queen looks far from well. She is exhausted by the terrible scenes which she has witnessed and they have affected her strongly. She weeps frequently, and on more than one occasion she has covered the hands of the unfortunate woman with her own. The king desired that the queen go to Rome, but this she refused, saying she could not sleep from thinking of the miseries of her subjects. By sitting on the spot she feels she can do something to relieve the general misery.

Quakes to Continue

Quakes leaving here for the south are almost entirely with newspaper relatives of the victims, or the centers on the rescue committees. The committees are composed of representatives of all the various organizations. The committees are composed of representatives of all the various organizations. The committees are composed of representatives of all the various organizations.

Reports Not Exaggerated

Personal accounts of survivors obtained today all go to confirm the first reports of the extent of the disaster, but add to the gruesome recital of suffering and the pathetic inability to help the injured.

May Survive Ruins and Corpses

Many cases, the survivors recovered consciousness to find themselves away from the scene of the disaster. The large number of the survivors have become insane. They try to throw themselves overboard, if they are on a boat, or they themselves out of windows. That has taken place at Reggio, has a repetition of the scenes at Messina, but the proportion of the population to perish at the former place is worse than at Messina owing to the fact of an epidemic from decomposing bodies. It has been proposed, in small villages, where not one house is standing, to set the debris on fire as a means of purification.

Islands Not Equipped

The news from the stricken news tell of the fatality of the report that Lipari islands had been engulfed, 28,000 people annihilated, a story coming from the south today is a repetition of previous recitals of devastation, suffering, starvation, and horror. The time has come when it is no longer possible to think about those who are left in the ruins. All hope of saving these unfortunate after the first days that have elapsed since the disaster must of necessity be abandoned. All our efforts must be devoted to caring for the wounded survivors.

Moving the Wounded

In view of these conditions, the government has decided to concentrate its efforts on moving the wounded to places where they can receive proper attention. The injured survivors also assisted from the devastated areas.

It is hoped that in this way epidemics can be avoided.

Emergency steamships are being chartered to carry the surplus population and Sicily to the four corners of the world are today being employed to remove the survivors and places of safety. Messina is a typical southern city today no more. The fury of the sea has compassed their little remains, heaps of debris covering countless bodies now to be covered with prevent an outbreak of

people. If it is found impossible to set the refugees on shore, and land accommodations are rapidly filling up with the wounded, they can be fed on board ship, for each vessel is provided with thirty days' rations for a full passenger list. This leeway will give time for a decision as to whom of the unfortunates had been landed. This advantage of feeding, however, applies only to the survivors of Reggio and Messina.

Desperate Inland Condition

There are still scores of smaller inland towns and villages where it is impossible to send relief. The conditions in these sections are indeed desperate. The survivors have no shelter whatever, and no food, and persistent rains make it impossible to kindle fires, while the majority have but tattered rags for clothing. In inland villages surrounding Reggio that have been destroyed, the dead number 7,000. Whenever it has been possible to get a message thru from these localities, the cry has been for food. To the destruction of Messina, Reggio, Sant'Eufemia, Bagaria, Palmi, and Seminara, must be added the following towns and villages: Castellata, Polistena, Cinque, Prandi, Mamertina, Simpoli, San Procopio, Pizziconi, Stefanocoli, Catona, Rosalia and Scylla. These places are no more.

Relief Work Systematized

It is still raining today. The odor from decomposing bodies is becoming increasingly overpowering. It is estimated that 3,000 injured persons have been taken out of the ruins. The deaths in Reggio today are placed at 20,000. Large numbers of children have been taken alive from the ruins! Catania and Messina have been divided into zones, and the work of rescue in each is under charge of army officers. Very few children have been found alive. Eight hundred dead soldiers were found under the wreckage of the Messina barracks. The corpses being recovered thru the city are mutilated beyond recognition. Another town, Castoreale, has been added to the list of devastated localities. Not a house escaped. The place had a population of about 4,000.

King Returns to Reggio

King Victor Emmanuel returned to the ruins at Reggio today. He traversed the ruins from one end to the other, comforting the sufferers and cheering the rescuers. At one point his majesty came upon a man buried up to his waist in debris. The king encouraged the unfortunate while soldiers were digging him out. In the midst of the efforts to rescue the man cried: "Sir, I can wait for deliverance, but for God's sake give me food and drink."

MANY OF INJURED INSANE

Fight Against Being Taken to Hospitals in Cities of Refuge

Naples, Jan. 1.—Two thousand persons from the earthquake zone have arrived here. All kinds of public buildings are being fitted up to receive them. Many of the injured were taken by force to the hospitals, becoming frenzied with the idea of being compelled to enter the institutions. Three tank steamers filled with drinking water have left for Messina. At Taormina, Sicily, where a number of Americans were spending the winter, it is said the town escaped with slight damage.

STORY OF REFUGEES

Scenes Following Quake Likened to Those of an Inferno

Rome, Jan. 1.—Refugees are being brought into Rome the first connected stories of the catastrophe. A man from Catania declares the list of dead will be over 200,000.

A young doctor named Rosci, at Messina, gives a vivid account of his experiences. His escape was miraculous, and by his calmness and energy he was able to rescue others from imminent death.

The doctor was preparing to leave Messina, by an early train Monday morning, the day of the disaster.

"Suddenly the profound silence was broken by an extraordinary noise like the bursting of a thousand bombs," he says. "This was followed by a rushing and torrential rain. Then I heard a sinister whistling sound that I can liken to a thousand red hot iron rods hissing water."

"Suddenly there came violent rhythmic movements of the earth and the crashing down of nearby walls made me realize the awful fact of the earthquake."

"Falling glass, bursting roofs, and a thick cloud of dust added to the horror of the situation, while the extraordinary double movement, rising and falling at the same time, crumbled walls and imperiled my life."

"I rushed into the room where were my mother and sister and with a rope which fortunately I had with me I succeeded in rescuing them."

"I was also successful in getting out of the house a number of other persons who had given themselves up for lost. Then some soldiers came and helped me, and together we dragged forth several women and children from the tottering walls of a half-destroyed palace near by. A few seconds later this building was entirely demolished, and there were scenes of indescribable horror in the streets and squares thru which my party made its way. We finally gained the open country."

PIERCE AND FAMILY LOST

Former American Vice Consul Among Victims at Messina. Naples, Jan. 1.—It was learned conclusively today that Joseph H. Pierce, former American vice consul at Messina, and all the members of his family, lost their lives in the disaster.

REPORT ANOTHER TIDAL WAVE

Naples Hears That One Has Swept Messina Strait. Naples, Jan. 1.—It is reported here that another tidal wave has swept thru the strait of Messina. The report has not yet been verified.

TAORMINA STANDS: AMERICANS SAFE

Ambassador Griscom Sends Cheering News to Many in United States

AMERICAN RELIEF GROWS

Already Almost \$400,000 Has Been Raised in United States and Portion Has Been Forwarded—All Cities Contribute—American Ambassador Assisting in Relief Work

Washington, Jan. 1.—Good news for many Americans was received at the state department today in a cablegram from Ambassador Griscom at Rome, who reported that the Italian foreign office assured him that Taormina, Sicily, where many Americans were stopping, escaped uninjured. The government and private citizens thruout the country are co-operating to relieve the Italian sufferers. Altogether \$110,000 has been made available in this country thru the Red Cross, which today dispatched \$40,000 to Italy. Congress will be asked for a liberal appropriation.

Monsignor Falconio, the apostolic delegate, has issued an appeal to the Catholic church for contributions.

Dispatches to the Associated Press show that nearly every city of size has either started relief funds or is making preparations to do so. Subscriptions already total about \$375,000. While Italians are foremost in securing and giving money, other classes are contributing liberally. Various relief organizations, newspapers, chambers of commerce, boards of trade and similar institutions have started subscriptions.

GRISCOM TO MEET WARSHIPS

American Ambassador Aiding in Relief Work and Search for Americans. Rome, Jan. 1.—Ambassador Griscom has decided not to go to Messina at present. He will await the expected arrival of the American battleship fleet in the stricken district. The warships probably will get to Messina next week.

The ambassador is expected to be in Messina on Monday morning. He will be accompanied by American military attaché, Bayard Cutting, Jr., American vice consul at Milan; Winthrop Chandler and the interpreter of the embassy, with full instructions concerning the methods to be adopted in the search for Americans at Calabria at the time of the earthquake.

The ambassador has communicated to the government receipts of contributions for the sufferers of \$50,000 from the American Red Cross, as well as the first contribution of \$20,000 from the Christian Herald.

CANADA CONTRIBUTES LIBERAL

Government Votes \$100,000 for Relief of Italians. Ottawa, Jan. 1.—The government has granted \$100,000 for the sufferers in the earthquake. This will be supplemented by generous contributions from unofficial sources.

DEATH LIST GROWS

One Estimate Places Number at Near 300,000. Messina, via Catania, Jan. 1.—An estimate of the total dead in Messina and Reggio and all Calabria now has risen to 300,000.

The disaster exceeds all efforts of the imagination. The havoc is so vast, so universal I scarcely know how to begin to describe it. The horror of it all is indeed beyond words.

Among the buildings wrecked were the barracks of the carabinieri. Fifty carabinieri escaped in the ruins.

Four Only Escaped Palace. A palace of twenty-six rooms collapsed and of the inmates only four escaped. Of the Hotel Trinacria only the facade remains. The ruins of the rest of the building still is burning.

The cathedral with all its works of art has been destroyed. The famous Victor Emmanuel theater no longer exists. The seaward fronts of the university and palazzo municipale remain, but the interiors have been burnt out. The buildings along the waterfront collapsed like houses of cards.

The Sant'Elia barracks were destroyed with most of the troops in them, only thirty soldiers escaping out of 230.

The immense military hospital was wrecked with the sick and convalescent with it. The prison collapsed and buried 400 prisoners, while thirty more made their escape. Many officers of the garrison have been removed from the ruins still living.

Lime Keeps Away Dogs. Several carloads of quicklime have been landed and scattered among the ruins, partly to prevent contagion and to reduce the odor and partly to prevent dogs from devouring the bodies.

Numbers of these famished animals are prowling about the ruins snatching a ghastly meal. Some dogs, already half wild, have become ferocious under the pangs of hunger. Soldiers attempting to drive them off, have sometimes been fiercely attacked and seriously injured.

Sicilians usually are easily depressed by disaster. They lose courage and abandon themselves to despair. They showed these characteristics in full measure after the first shock and their

terrible experiences. Rallying to Help Themselves. Many now, however, are rallying, awakening from their apathy, and courageously striving to help themselves.

Able bodied men are being encouraged to assist the soldiers and government laborers and are paid for their work.

Those who are injured to such an extent that they are unable to share the task of relief are billeted to the various communes, where the government will supply them with rations.

A majority of the injured will be taken to Naples, Rome, and other cities of the mainland best equipped to deal with them.

Depopulate Ruined Tracts. It is understood that the government intends systematically to depopulate the ruined areas except of doctors, troops and workmen, so as to prevent an outbreak of disease.

For this purpose emigrant ships and other steamers will be withdrawn from their regular services and chartered by the government.

REFUGEES CROWD CITIES

Bring Pitiful Tales of Imminence of Disaster and Suffering. Naples, Jan. 1.—Naples is fast filling up with refugees. The nerves of these unfortunates are in such a condition that at the least noise they are prone to rush screaming from their rooms, seeking the open streets.

Sig. Briot, the mayor of Brescia, in Lombardy, was stopping at the Hotel Trinacria, in Messina, and was buried under the ruins of the building for five hours. Finally several persons approached the place where he lay, but at that moment a fresh shock put them to flight.

Eventually a body of sailors extricated him unconscious and took him aboard a ship, Sunday night Sig. Briot died with a party of English, French, and Germans at the hotel, all of whom perished.

Boy Rescues His Parents. The 12-year-old son of Professor Gabi saved his father and mother, who were buried under a mass of wreckage.

A man who left Messina for Taormina shortly before the catastrophe turned back as soon as he learned what had happened, and approached Messina on foot.

He was stopped in the outskirts by heaps of ruins. He then met people running wildly and crying for help. The nearer he got to the city the more awful were the sights. The railroad station was in flames.

Everywhere he encountered half clad unfortunates fleeing thru the night under the pelting rain. Arriving at his own house, he found it completely destroyed, and his young wife dead under the ruins.

Held in Wreck Twenty-four Hours. Another survivor of Messina says: "The first thing I knew I was thrown out of bed, then the floor of my room collapsed and I fell into the apartment under me. Here I found a distracted woman searching for her sister and son, whom she found dead."

"We remained in the ruins for twenty-four hours, entirely alone, without food or drink. We made a rough shelter of boards to keep off the rain. Our ears were assailed with the cries and moans of the wounded. These sounds abated during Monday night. Still no one came to our assistance. We were in a tomb, with the dead bodies of our children beside us."

"We could see no one, but every time sounds were heard from the street under the pelting rain. Arriving at the pier, we were taken aboard a vessel in the harbor, on which we came to Naples. Messina is entirely destroyed."

Vast Crevasses in Streets. "Tuesday morning we finally ventured forth and were taken aboard a vessel in the harbor, on which we came to Naples. Messina is entirely destroyed."

"We passed over streets that were vast crevasses and climbed over great mounds of ruins and wreckage that were all that remained of the finest palaces of Messina."

This refugee lost his two children. He arrived in Naples half clad and covered with dust and burns. His wife was clothed in little else than an old counterpane.

Think Only 6,000 Escaped. Other refugees estimate that not more than 6,000 persons of the entire population of Messina, 160,000, escaped with their lives.

The suffering was intensified by the lack of drinking water, the water system having been entirely demolished. The wounds of the injured had to be washed with sea water. Grocers' shops were ransacked for mineral water or anything else to drink.

A naval observer of the destruction of Messina says there were four tidal waves, ranging in height from twelve to thirty feet. Thirty minutes elapsed between the rolling in of the first and the destructive onslaught of the last wave.

2 CENT POSTAGE TO GERMANY

New Rate Becomes Effective With Beginning of New Year. Washington, Jan. 1.—A long step toward bringing the United States and Germany into closer relations was taken today when the 2-cent postage rate between the United States and Germany became operative. The new rate applies to correspondence sent direct by sea between the two countries, and not to that which is sent thru an intermediary.

FLEET NEARS SUEZ

Due to Arrive in Mediterranean Waters Sunday Morning. Suez, Jan. 1.—The United States battleship fleet, at 8 o'clock last night, was 619 miles from Suez. The fleet is due here Sunday morning.

Warner Takes Office for Third Term. Lansing, Mich., Jan. 1.—Chief Justice Blair today administered the oath of office to the new state officials, headed by Governor Fred M. Warner, who today begins his third term as governor of the state.

NOTABLE NEW YEAR'S AT WHITE HOUSE

President Roosevelt's Last Public Reception an Interesting One

SHADOW OF SADNESS PRESENT

Italian Ambassador as Dean of Diplomatic Corps Present Despite Country's Affliction—Well Wishes Extended for President's African Trip—All Social Classes Represented

Washington, Jan. 1.—Seldom has there been a gathering at the White House so fraught with elements of interest as that which assembled today to extend to President Roosevelt wishes for a happy New Year. It was the last opportunity of the public to meet the present chief executive, and it was distinguished by the attendance of diplomatic representatives of nearly all the nations of the world, officials from every branch of the government and citizens in every walk of life.

A shadow of sadness was cast over the company by the recent terrible calamity which has fallen upon the people whose ambassador was present as dean of the diplomatic corps and by the absence of representative of the emperor of China, who is wearing the badge of mourning for the late emperor and dowager empress of his country.

Roosevelt's Good-byes Many. To Roosevelt the occasion was memorable beyond any in which he has participated since his elevation to the presidency. In the exchanges of salutations there were many references to the events of his career during the coming year, when he will face the dangers of the African wilderness. As many of those present have come into office during his administration, and with him will retire to private life after March 4 next, there were abundant subjects for conversation concerning the uncertainties of the new year.

All Classes Participate. Several hours before the formal reception began at 11 o'clock, citizens, men and women, representing every social class, began to assemble in front of the white mansion, waiting an opportunity to enter and be presented to the president. The first greetings of the day were extended to President and Mrs. Roosevelt by the vice president, members of the cabinet and their ladies, without the least show of formality. These felicitations were exchanged in the private rooms on the second floor of the mansion.

Sympathy for Baron des Planches. While the president's party was gathering above, there was another assemblage in the state dining room on the first floor. There, in the prescribed attire their respective courts, were the diplomatic representatives accredited to this country. The central figure in this company was Baron Edmondo Mayor des Planches, the Italian ambassador. The greetings extended to him were characterized by manifestations of sorrow over the dire calamity under which his countrymen have so recently suffered, rather than the usual salutations attending the first day of the year. When at the head of the line of diplomats he passed into the blue room, the president shook his hand and assured him of the sincere sympathy of the American people for his stricken countrymen. Mrs. Roosevelt, also expressed sympathy.

"Hail to the Chief." The descent of the presidential party from the private rooms to the blue room was one of the most picturesque features of the day. As President and Mrs. Roosevelt started down the staircase, followed by others of the receiving party, the flare of trumpets resounded thruout the mansion. The marine band in brilliant scarlet uniforms was stationed in the state hall. Strains of "Hail to the Chief" greeted the president as he reached the main floor and turned to enter the blue room.

The reception was marked by informality. The announcement of the callers was made to the president by Col. Charles S. Brown, chief of the United States army, and to Mrs. Roosevelt by Capt. A. W. Butt, military aide to the president. Chief Justice Fuller and the associate justices of the supreme court of the United States led the entire judiciary present, after which came senators and representatives in congress. Brig. Gen. J. Franklin Bell, chief of staff, led the army, which was very fully represented. Officials of the government, representing all the important bureaus and various departments, were followed by representatives of various patriotic societies, which had been given places of honor in the line.

After the public reception the president led the way to the dinner room, where refreshments were served.

TEN MORE SALOON SUITS

Civic Federation Continues War Against Davenport Violators. Davenport, Dec. 31.—Ten more suits, making twenty-one, were filed today against the saloon keepers for violating the muley law. The civic federation is active in enforcing the strict letter of the law.

T. R. BULLETIN. NOTICEABLE NEWS OF TODAY

The Weather.

Sun rises Jan. 2 at 7:24; sets at 4:45. Iowa and South Dakota—Fair tonight and Saturday; warmer tonight. Illinois—Partly cloudy, with snow flurries tonight and Saturday. Missouri—Snow or snow flurries tonight or Saturday; warmer in the north tonight.

ONE.

Taormina stands; Americans Safe. American Relief Fund Grows. Queen overwhelmed by Scenes. Rescue Work Being Systematized. Lipari Islands Not Destroyed. Ruins and Bodies May Be Burned. Several Towns Added to Earthquake's Toll. Notable Reception at White House. Shadow of Sadness Present. Garst Appeals for Iowa's Aid. Thomas D. Healy Better.

PAGES TWO AND THREE.

Iowa News: Frats Are Condemned. Patriotic Can Not Inherit Estate. Grinnell Wins and Holds Jubilee. Suicide Near Raleigh. Iowa Priest Among Missing.

PAGE FOUR.

Editorial: Off With the Dance. Mr. McDonald's Road Law. The Sicilian Disaster. Topics of the Times. Iowa Opinions and Notes. Iowa Newspapers.

PAGE FIVE.

General News: Criminals in Inebriate Asylum. One Man's Good Work. The American Home.

PAGES SIX AND SEVEN.

City News: Society Busy With Year's Close. Many Social Gatherings Held. Cash Prizes for Show Stock. Haug Steals March on Friends. Nothing Heard From Swick. Chapter and Commandery Install. General News of the City.

PAGE EIGHT.

Markets and General: Light Cattle Receipts. Hogs Slow to 5 Cents Higher. No Grain Markets. Canada Saves at U. S. Expense.

HEALY IS BETTER

Slight Improvement in Condition Noted and Attending Physicians Are Encouraged—Fever Abates Somewhat

Fort Dodge, Jan. 1.—The attending physicians are considerably encouraged today because of a slight improvement in the condition of Hon. Thomas D. Healy, who is dangerously ill of pneumonia, complicated with heart trouble. It is believed the crisis was passed during the night. The unusual condition of fever at 105 and pulse at 200, which was noted Thursday, has abated to a marked degree. Mr. Healy passed a good night.

DAUGHTER DIES; END LIVES.

Parents of New York Girl Kill Themselves By Careful Plan. New York, Jan. 1.—Because they lost their daughter, just budding into womanhood, in whom all their hopes and love were centered, Prof. J. F. Gordy, 57 years of New York University and his wife, aged 45, killed themselves together with chloroform yesterday in their apartment overlooking the river at One Hundred and Sixteenth and Riverside drive.

Miss Gwendoline Gordy, who was 18 years old, died from bronchial pneumonia at 8 o'clock yesterday morning. Her parents retired to their room at 10 o'clock. They were found dead at 2 o'clock in the afternoon. Added to the trials of the two weeks' during which they watched their child fade from health, they had been compelled to contend with medical uncertainties. Diagnosis of Miss Gordy's illness had not been satisfactory.

For a time she was treated for diphtheria. Then it was assumed she had pneumonia. In despair the Gordys changed their attending physician on the eve of their daughter's death. They called eminent medical men into consultation, but their efforts were of no avail.

"OIL" TURNS PLEADER

Standard Asks Missouri Supreme Court to Permit It to Do Business in State on Promise to Obey Laws

Jefferson City, Mo., Jan. 1.—In the motion for a rehearing in the Missouri ouster suit against it, filed in the supreme court today, the Standard Oil company of Indiana asked to be allowed to remain in Missouri as long as it conforms to the rules and regulations that may be laid down by the court.

FRANCIS J. HENEY IN CABINET?

Rumor That Graft-Hunter Is to Be Made Attorney General

Washington, Jan. 1.—The rumor reached Washington from the Pacific coast last night that Francis J. Heney of San Francisco, the arch enemy of all grafters, was to be the attorney general in President Taft's cabinet. Senator Knox, who is to be secretary of state, was credited with having brought about this selection. Diligent inquiry fails to confirm the report, though there are many who believe it is true.

GOVERNOR APPEALS FOR IOWA'S AID

Issues Proclamation Calling on People of State to Contribute to Relief Fund

NAMES COMMITTEES TO ACT

Governor Garst Selects Representative to Collect and Disburse Money for Unfortunates in Earthquake Disaster—Thomas D. Healy Much Improved—Other News of the State

Special to Times-Republican.

Des Moines, Jan. 1.—Governor Garst today issued a proclamation calling on the people of Iowa to contribute to the fund for the relief of the Italians. He also named, on request of the Italian consul and the Red Cross, a committee to look after the matter.

AMERICA DECLARED IN NO PERIL

Scientists Deny There is Reason to Fear Earth Disturbances

Washington, Jan. 1.—Is there reason to fear that the earthquake shocks felt in Montana immediately before the great cataclysm in Sicily suggested that another huge upheaval may occur in the United States? Is there danger of the Atlantic seaboard slipping under the ocean? These questions are receiving consideration from thoughtful persons who have been rendered apprehensive by the devastation in Italy. Scientists of the geological survey have little hesitation in saying that there is small reason to expect an American disaster.

Dr. Charles W. Hayes, chief geologist, following the last Chilean earthquake, directed attention to the readjustment which was taking place in the great continental backbone of America and suggested that Mexico or California might be the scene of the next disturbance. The San Francisco earthquake followed. Dr. Hayes is not predicting an earthquake in America.

Dr. George Otis Smith, director of the survey, says that had the earthquake of this week taken place somewhere in the great volcanic chain which surrounds the Pacific there would be more ground for suspecting that it might be followed by a like disturbance somewhere else in that chain.

"There is no apparent evidence that the Mediterranean region is connected with the phenomena of the Pacific circle," says Dr. Smith. He adds that the present scientific hypothesis as to earthquakes is that they are rather superficial in character and cause, that they are not believed to have any relation to any condition of internal adjustment of the earth as a mass. Instead, their causes are thought to lie comparatively near the surface and to be rather distinctly local in character.

SON OF "RUBBER KING" IS DEAD

J. J. Banigan Succumbs to Apoplexy—Domestic Troubles Recalled

Mount Clemens, Mich., Jan. 1.—John J. Banigan, aged 46, a Providence, R. I. millionaire, died here of apoplexy. He had been here about ten days.

He was a son of Joseph Banigan, the "rubber king," and inherited a quarter of the latter's \$10,000,000 estate. His wife was granted a separation four years ago, and later made an unsuccessful attempt to have a guardian appointed. He frustrated her plan to obtain control of his property by taking \$2,000,000 of securities and cash from the state. He has been a frequent visitor here and the securities are supposed to be in a deposit vault here or near here.

EVIDENCE IN THE ERB TRIAL

Prosecution Combatting Effort to Show Killing Was in Self Defense

Media, Pa., Jan. 1.—The greater part of the morning session today in the trial of Mrs. M. Florence Erb and her sister, Mrs. Catherine Beisel, for the murder of Mrs. Erb's husband, was taken up with medical testimony. The evidence as brought out by the district attorney tended to show that Erb was shot at a distance, as there were no powder marks found by him on the bed. This testimony was introduced in anticipation of the contention to be made by counsel for the women that Erb was shot by one of the defendants in self defense.

BISHOP CHARGED WITH FRAUD

Leader of African Methodists Is in Jail at Omaha

Omaha, Jan. 1.—W. M. Williams, bishop of the Apostolic African Methodist Episcopal church, is in jail here charged with fraud. He has been soliciting funds for the establishment of a home for destitute colored children and some of those who have contributed claim that he has not been using the money as represented. Bishop J. W. Watkins of Webb City, Mo., is said to be the head of the church in which Williams claims to hold official position.

STEAMER CATCHES FIRE

Steamer Texas, From Christiansa to Havana, With Seventeen Passengers

Savannah, Jan. 1.—With seventeen passengers aboard, the Norwegian steamer Texas, bound from Christiansa for Havana, five miles below Savannah, caught fire early today. The Savannah fire department sent a party to fight the blaze.