

EARTHQUAKE IN ITALY KILLS THOUSANDS

MANY CITIES AND TOWNS IN RUINS

ROME, Jan. 14.—The victims of the earthquake disaster, according to latest reports received here number about 50,000, including dead and wounded.

LONDON, Jan. 14.—A news agency dispatch from Rome says that a further distinct earthquake was felt in Rome at 3 o'clock this morning.

HORROR GROWS WITH EACH HOUR

Fatalities and Losses May Exceed Those of Messina Catastrophe.

CASUALTIES MOUNT AS DETAILS COME

Many Towns Ruined in Three Provinces—Lines of Communication Destroyed and Task of Making Accurate Estimates of Fatalities is Impossible—Soldiers on Relief Duty and Shelter Tents For Refugees Erected.

Rome, Jan. 14.—With every hour, as additional and more actual details are received, the horror of yesterday's earthquake increases, threatening to place it in the list of similar catastrophes in Europe, second only to the Messina disaster of 1908.

The list of dead, dying and injured has increased from a relatively small figure last night to more than 50,000, according to an official announcement today and it is expected that this number may grow before the day is over.

The full extent of the property loss has not yet been determined. Here in Rome priceless statues, century-old buildings and structures that for years have been the Mecca of visitors, have been destroyed or injured.

Covers Great Area.

The loss of life and the property damage may be less than it was in 1908, the area of disturbance greatly exceeded that of the Messina quake. It covered all central Italy.

The most disastrous disturbance, from all reports, seems to have centered in the vicinity of the town of Avezzano, where 15,000 persons have been killed or injured, according to the latest official reports.

Reports of damage in varying degrees of severity have come from Lattium, Abruzzi, Umbria, the marches, Tuscany, Aesilia, Campania and Apulia.

The earthquake belt is estimated to be about three hundred miles long, extending almost from one side of Italy to the other.

Three Provinces Devastated.

In Abruzzi, Lattium and Campania the quake reached its highest degree described by scientists as catastrophic, and in other places it varied between the seven and tenth degrees.

Relief measures for the thousands who have escaped, but who are in want and without shelter, are going ahead with all possible speed. Special trains have been dispatched bearing physicians and nurses.

King Victor Emmanuel, despite protests of government officials, who urged the international situation as a reason for his staying in Rome, left early today for Avezzano to do what he could and by his presence stimulate the work.

Relief committees have been organized to work under the direction of the central committee at Rome, which is under the supervision of Premier Salandra.

Soldiers Rushed to Scene.

Soldiers have been rushed to the scene and by night will have established tent colonies where the homeless may find shelter.

Lines of communication, especially railroad tracks and telephone and telegraph wires, have been interrupted seriously, and the transportation of supplies furnished by the government and private sources is going forward by automobile and horse and wagon.

The relief committees face scenes of the greatest tragedies. In every stricken section temporary hospitals have been established and to these have come nurses and doctors to care for the injured. The list includes the Duchess of Aosta, who has gone to Monteroduni as a nurse.

LONDON, Jan. 14.—A news dispatch received here from Rome says a member of the chamber of deputies from Lipari has telegraphed to the capital that the disaster of yesterday surpasses the Messina catastrophe. The ruin is more widespread and the injury to life and limb will be greater.

QUAKE COVERS 300-MILE ZONE

Damaged District Extends From Naples Northward to Ferrara.

AVEZZANO CENTER OF GREAT DISASTER

Ten Thousand of 12,000 Population Killed or Injured—Country South and Southeast of Rome Suffers Most Severely—Steps to Relieve Stricken Districts Undertaken by Government—King to Visit Scene.

Rome, Jan. 14.—Late reports from the zone which suffered from yesterday's earthquake, while fragmentary, indicate there has been appalling loss of life and property. Latest estimates of killed and injured total 39,000.

The earthquake zone so far as can be gathered here extends nearly three hundred miles, from below Naples to the south to Ferrara in the north and practically across the entire width of the country in the district indicated. The country south and southeast of Rome suffered the most severely.

Avezzano, with 12,000 inhabitants, sixty-three miles east of Rome, seems to have been the center of disturbance, and this place, with a number of nearby towns and villages, is reported destroyed.

Great Loss of Life at Avezzano.

Great loss of life occurred at Avezzano and its vicinity, the number of dead and injured there being placed at more than ten thousand.

The towns reported destroyed are Buccellati, Capelle, Scurocola, Magliano, Cappadocia, Celano and Pescora. Sora and Arpino are said to have been partially wrecked.

Naples felt the shock severely but suffered only light damage.

Sulmona and Aquila, in the province of Abruzzi, and other towns in that region report much damage and some loss of life.

No one was killed in Rome. Several of Rome's historical structures were damaged, but it is hoped not irredeemably so. About one hundred persons were killed in towns near Rome, according to reports.

Relief Work Under Way.

Relief work is under way and it is stated that King Victor Emmanuel will himself visit the most seriously stricken districts.

Premier Salandra has personally taken charge of the relief work. He will direct the work from the home office. Special trains with doctors, medicine, ambulance and nurses, have been dispatched and the government officials have been given carte blanche to provide all necessities to the stricken people.

Queen Helena has expressed deep sorrow at the fact that she is still obliged to remain in bed owing to the recent birth of a princess, as she desired to go personally and give succor to the victims.

Pope Would Go to District.

The Duchess of Aosta has gone to Monteroduni, where she has installed herself as a hospital nurse for the wounded.

Pope Benedict is awaiting a report from Monsignor Sagli, archbishop of Aquila, on the gravity of the situation and the probable loss of life. He has expressed a desire to go to the spot to encourage and comfort the distressed.

The anxiety concerning the province of Potenza seems unnecessary. The latest reports say that while the damage to buildings was great, there was no loss of life.

Origin Not Volcanic.

The most severe disaster was around the volcano Vulture.

Director Friedlander, of the international volcanological institution at Naples says that the origin of the earthquake is geological and not volcanic, with its epicentrum in the valley of the Carigliano river. The registration of the earthquake at the observatory lasted for forty seconds and was so violent that the needle broke.

this being thought would keep him in Rome. He replied:

"The sufferings of my people are nearer my heart than anything else."

Storm and Tidal Wave Follow.

Dispatches received here from Ancona say that a heavy storm raged yesterday along the Adriatic coast. There was also a heavy fall of snow. Naples reports a strong tidal wave yesterday at the bay of Gaeta accompanied by seismic disturbances on shore. Venice reports very cold weather in the Alps with the snow in deep drifts.

Only One Shock Recorded.

From below Naples in the south to Ferrara in the north a distance of more than three hundred miles, and across almost the width of the country the undulatory movement continued for a considerable period.

In Rome it was thought at first that two shocks had occurred, but the seismographic instruments in the observatories showed there was only one, which beginning at 7:55 o'clock in the morning, lasted from twenty-two to thirty seconds.

The buildings on both sides of the Porta Del Popolo, the north entrance to Rome, threatened to fall and the eagle decorating the gate crashed to the ground.

Famous Colonnade Lowered.

The obelisk in St. Peter's square was shaken and badly damaged, while the statue of St. John Lateran and the statues of the apostles surmounting the basilica are in danger of collapsing.

The famous colonnade decorating St. Peter's square was lowered four feet, while the adjacent dome, once occupied by the sisters of Pope Pius X, was badly cracked.

Owing to the wide extent of the disturbance and its evident terrible consequences the actual effects of the earthquake are not at present known, owing to the cutting off of communications.

Potenza is Isolated.

Potenza, capital of the province of the same name, on the eastern declivity of the Appennines, which has a population of nearly twenty thousand, has been isolated. In 1857 this town was almost destroyed by an earthquake.

Father Alfani, director of the observatory at Valle di Pompelli, the noted seismologist, has sent the following telegram to Rome:

"The earthquakes registered by our apparatus appears to have been most disastrous for a radius of more than one hundred miles. Probably its center was in the province of Potenza. Meanwhile communications with Potenza are interrupted and a grave disaster there is feared."

Felt Severely Around Naples.

As the day wore on and details began to arrive in the capital it was apparent that the disturbance in the province of Rome and the Abruzzi had been greater than at first believed and that it also had been felt severely in the region around Naples.

At Monteroduni three persons were killed and two wounded; at Zagarolo, the dome of a church fell; at Galliano part of the cathedral was wrecked; at Veroli, two persons were killed and two injured; at Tivoli, one person was killed; at Ferentino, five houses collapsed, and at Peggio Nativo, one person was killed and several were injured.

Thus far it has been impossible to communicate with the ancient fortified city of Aquila. In the Abruzzi, owing to the interruption of the telegraph service, it is reported, however, that several villages were destroyed in that vicinity.

Whole Village Destroyed.

At Torre Colatone, about thirty-seven miles east of Rome, almost the entire village was destroyed, while at Arnara the municipal building collapsed. From numerous places in the affected regions calls for doctors and medicine are reaching Rome.

TO TEST ROAD'S RIGHT TO QUIT

Commerce Counsel Asks For Order to Compel Atlantic & Southern to Continue Operating—Preliminary to Test Suit in Court.

Special to Times-Republican.

Des Moines, Jan. 14.—The commerce counsel today filed with the railroad commission an application for an order to compel the Atlantic & Southern to continue operation of the trains, reciting the history of the road and setting forth the needs of the community through which the road passes. This is preliminary to action in court to test the right of the company to abandon its line.

Washington, Jan. 14.—President Wilson today nominated Blair E. Hoar, of Orofino, Idaho, receiver of public monies at Helena, and Col. William A. Mann, Third Infantry, to be brigadier general.

GERMAN VICTORY SEEN BY KAISER

Emperor William Witnesses Success of Troops on Vrigny Plain.

FRENCH ADMIT TEUTON SUCCESS

Elevated Ground of the Plain of Vrigny Cleared of French—Fourteen Officers and 130 Men Claimed to Have Been Taken by Germans—French Admit Reverses Near Soissons—Determined Fighting Without Decision.

Berlin, Jan. 14.—Emperor William was present in person during the spirited battle on the Vrigny plain, to the northeast of Soissons, which resulted yesterday in that elevated ground being cleared of the French, and which is described in the German official statement given out this afternoon as a "brilliant feat for our troops." In this engagement the Germans claim to have captured fourteen French officers and 1,130 men.

The war office today gave out the following statement:

"In the western theater of war, in the dunes of Nieuport and to the southwest of Ypres, artillery combats are still going on. The enemy delivered a strong fire on Westende, which they will soon have entirely destroyed. Their torpedo boats disappeared quickly as soon as they received our fire."

Clear Plain of Enemy.

"In continuation of their activities on Jan. 8, northeast of Soissons, our troops again made an attack on the heights of Vrigny, and cleared this elevated plain of the enemy. In a pouring rain and deeply sodden clay, trench after trench was taken by storm until after dark and the enemy was driven back to the border of the plain. Fourteen French officers and 1,130 men were taken prisoners and four cannon, four machine guns and several light weapons captured, a brilliant feat for our troops, under the very eyes of their uppermost war lord."

Near Chalons the French attacked again yesterday in strong forces to the east of Perthes. They penetrated at certain places but were repulsed with energetic counter attacks, being driven back into their own positions, leaving 180 prisoners in our hands.

Russian Attacks Are Repulsed.

"In the Argonne and the Vosges, nothing of importance has occurred."

"In the eastern theater of war Russian attacks to the east of Loetzen have been repulsed and many hundreds of prisoners have been taken."

"The situation in northern Poland is the same."

"Our attacks west of the Vistula river are being continued. Nothing of importance has occurred on the eastern bank of the Pilsna."

FRENCH RIGHT YIELDS.

Determined But Undecided Fighting North of Soissons.

Paris, Jan. 14.—The French official statement on the progress of the war shows the fighting yesterday north of Soissons was most determined. The French could make no material progress on the left of their Soissons line. They held their positions on the center and were compelled to yield on their right. The French have also taken up position on the right bank of the Aisne.

Spirited artillery engagements continued yesterday at other points.

"In Belgium the firing of our artillery was interfered with by the fog. Nevertheless the cannonading was spirited near Nieuport and around Ypres. Certain detachments of Belgian troops blew up at a point southwest of Stuyveskerke, the buildings on a farm which were serving the enemy as a depot for his ammunition."

"Between the Lys and the Oise, in the region of Lens, our artillery was successful in dispersing a group of German pioneers on the outskirts of the hamlet of Angres, and it bombarded effectively the German trenches to the southeast of the chapel of Notre Dame de Lorette."

Reverses Near Soissons Admitted.

"To the south of Soissons there was determined fighting all day yesterday. The engagement was localized to a section of ground due north of Crouy. We hold only the first slope of these hills. On our left in these fields our left made slight progress. On the center we retired our positions around the village of Crouy. In spite of the repeated efforts of the enemy to dislodge us, but on the east in front of Vrigny, we were obliged to yield."

"The continued flood stage of the river Aisne has carried away several of the regular bridges as well as some of the temporary foot bridges which we threw across the river. The lines of communications were thus made uncertain. Under these conditions we established ourselves on the south bank between Crouy and Misy with bridge heads on the north bank in our possession."

Along the remainder of the front on the river Aisne there was yesterday nothing more than artillery exchanges. Local Engagements Near Perthes.

"In Champagne the region of Perthes

T.R. BULLETIN NEWS OF THE DAY

The Weather.
Sun rises Jan. 15 at 7:22, sets at 4:57
Iowa—Generally fair tonight and Friday; not much change in temperature.

PAGE ONE.
Telegraphic News:
Horror of Italian Quake Growing.
Fifty Thousand Dead or Injured.
Large Territory Devastated.
Ten Thousand or More Dead at Avezzano Alone.
Kaiser Sees Army Win Battle.
Wilson Bids For Kenyon's Support.
New Bank Home at Eldora.
Game Law Fight Carried to Washington.
Remarkable Analysis of House Vote.

PAGE FIVE.
Miscellaneous News:
Iowa News Notes.
PAGE SIX.

Editorial:
The Y. M. C. A. Convention.
No Closed Session on Groups.
A Misnamed Association.
Topics of the Times.
Farm Topics.
PAGES SEVEN, EIGHT, TEN AND ELEVEN.

City News:
Baseball Season Begins May 5.
Fort Dodge Available if Clinton Falls.
Lincoln Wedding of Local Interest.
Highway Club Opens Season.
Commander Palmer Inspects Home.
PAGE TWELVE.

Markets and General:
Wheat at New Record.
Heaviness in Corn.
Hog Prices Weaken.
Cattle Holders Stubborn.

continued to be the scene of local engagements for the possession of German trenches, and on the second and third lines of defense. To the north of Beausjour we blew up some of the enemy's positions to make impossible, in our opinion, any further advance. The Germans, believing they were being attacked, manned their trenches. We then opened a violent artillery and infantry fire on these positions. There is nothing to report on the rest of the front."

MAN WHO STARTED WAR QUITS

Von Berchtold, Austrian Minister of Foreign Affairs, Resigns.

London, Jan. 14.—Count Leopold von Berchtold, the Austro-Hungarian minister of foreign affairs whose note to Serbia precipitated the world war, has resigned.

His resignation has caused a sensation in diplomatic circles, as it was not dreamed that he would quit while the war was in progress, for it was considered that such action might suggest that his policy had fallen into disfavor. More significant than his resignation, however, is the announcement that he is succeeded by a Hungarian, Baron Stephen Burian.

Hungary, while at one with Austria in regard to the principle of the war, has shown dissatisfaction with the manner in which it has been prosecuted. While Austro-Hungarian troops have been utilized to prevent a Russian invasion of Germany and even have been employed against France, Hungary has been left open to invasion.

TURKS TO "DELIVER" PERSIA.

Constantinople Explains Invasion Is For Benefit of Country.

Amsterdam, via London, Jan. 14.—There has been received here an official communication given out at Constantinople as follows: "Our army is advancing in Azerbaijan province, Persia, in order to deliver the country from the Russian yoke."

"We have had further notable success occupying advanced positions near Tabriz."

"A number of tribesmen of the British army in Egypt have surrendered to our vanguard."

British Bombs Fall on Antwerp.

Amsterdam, Jan. 14.—The Telegram in its issue today says it has learned that British aviators last Monday dropped bombs on the German positions at Antwerp.

FARMER CAPTURES WOULD-BE ROBBER

Albert Erickson, of Castana, Knocks Down Housebreaker, Binds Him and Prevents His Escape Until Officers Arrive—Erickson Shot Three Times.

Special to Times-Republican.

Castana, Jan. 14.—White his older brother and a maiden sister were seeking safety in another section of the house, Albert Erickson, aged 55, a wealthy farmer residing five miles from here, knocked one of two robbers down, bound him and called the sheriff and neighbors, the other would-be robber fleeing and escaping. Both robbers emptied their revolvers at Erickson who was shot three times, one wound in the back being dangerous. The Ericksons are reputed to keep large sums of money in the house at all times.

GOVERNOR BLEASE QUITS.

South Carolina Governor Fails to Complete Term.

Columbia, S. C., Jan. 14.—Governor Bleasdale, whose term expires Jan. 15, today filed his resignation with the secretary of state.

MEYER SACRIFICED WITHOUT GAINS

Stubborn Conflict Raging For Days For Possession of "Spur 132"

GERMANS CONTINUE DAILY ASSAULTS

General Von Kluck Said to Be in Command of German Forces—Renewed Activities on Part of Teutons in the Eastern Theater of War—Russians Push Force Northward From Warsaw—Fighting Continues in Persia.

London, Jan. 14.—Like the stubbornly contested battle early in the war in which hinged the occupation of Flanders by the Germans, the battle for the height known as "Spur 132," near Soissons, remained undecided today.

In view of the relative small amount of ground gained, the losses on both sides have been very heavy, but the Germans show no sign of wavering in their attempt to take the spur. General Von Kluck is now said to be in command of the German forces.

Further east, near Perthes, where another sharp fight is still in progress, the situation has not changed materially.

In the eastern theater of the war, in the absence of any radical developments in Poland and Galicia, the Turkish operations hold the foreground of interest, with reports of a Turkish advance into Egypt that is said to be virtually ready and with the occupation by Turkey of Tabriz, in the Russian sphere of influence in Persia. This city of 200,000 population apparently was taken without fighting.

ACTIVITY IN EAST.

Russians Push Northward From Warsaw—Germans on Offensive.

Petrograd, Jan. 14.—Important bodies of Russian troops have pushed northward from Warsaw and have recaptured a number of villages between Mlava and Prazm, hitherto held by the Germans. In the center of the junction of the Brura and Rawa rivers, where fighting has been in progress for a month, the Germans have begun a campaign of great vigor. Their center is at Sockeznow and Skiermalowice. It is here that they have made four distinct efforts to advance during the last two days. Following a furious artillery action, the Germans occupied the district to the northeast of Bollnow, including the towns of Bin, Skupi and Sucha. These positions are three or four miles southwest of Sockeznow and five miles east of the Brura, from which positions they were reported officially to have been driven out at the points of bayonets.

DEFENDS GATEWAY OF PERSIA.

Force of Persians Hold Bridge Until Exterminated.

Petrograd, Jan. 14.—The correspondent of the Bourse Gazette at Tiflis sends a statement made to him by Schodjaed Daculeh, the former governor of the province of Azerbaijan, Persia, who has arrived in Tiflis. He is one of four survivors of a guard of 400 horsemen who defended the bridge at the entrance of Mianobad, the "gateway of Persia." He fought the Turks for ten hours, enabling refugees to escape to Maragha, fifty miles south of Tabriz. All Christians remained in Mianobad.

"When I heard the Turks were advancing," he said, "I posted 1,500 troops in one of the forests and 1,200 in another. I myself with 400 relatives and friends fought a hopeless battle at the bridge, when all but four were killed by the Turks' quick fire. I fled on horseback."

"All the members of the consulates and banks escaped from Tabriz."

CARONIA AGAIN ON PATROL

Converted British Cruiser Returns to Waters Near New York.

New York, Jan. 14.—The converted British cruiser Caronia, which has been absent from nearby waters for nearly a month, took up her position today off the Ambrose channel lightship relieving the cruiser Lancaster.

The Suffolk, stated to be about seven miles south of Scotland lightship, continued to control the southern steamship lanes.

STOCK QUARANTINE ALMOST LIFTED

But Two Small Circles in Entire State Remains Under Embargo Rules—Shipment of Breeding Stock Permitted.

Special to Times-Republican.

Des Moines, Jan. 14.—The state veterinary department today issued a new order modifying the quarantine so that there are only two circles of strict quarantine left in the state, one in Welton township, Clinton county; the other in Butler township, Jackson county. The order also permits the moving of breeding stock from all counties if it is not to be sent out of the state.