

## DOWNTOWN BUSINESS MEN READY

All Are Anxious to Re-build on Former Sites.

Will Consult With Insurance Adjusters Next Tuesday.

Have Hopes of Securing Permits to Begin Work Soon.

The Downtown Property Owners' Association, with M. H. de Young in the chair, held its second meeting yesterday morning in the Chronicle building. More than eighty realty owners in the commercial district, representing nearly twice that number of estates and syndicates, were present. All are anxious to rebuild on their old sites at the earliest possible moment and from the encouraging reports received it would appear that their plans will be carried out shortly.

The committee of five appointed last week on insurance first made its report through Samuel Knight, the chairman. Knight reported that the committee had held a lengthy conference with the underwriters and insurance interests and that much progress was made.

Knight said that the underwriters discussed at length with the committee the question of the coming locations of buildings, cleaning away of debris, building permits and the like. The underwriters informed the committee that they were just as anxious as the business men that the town should be cleaned up and rebuilt as rapidly as possible, and would be ready to discuss the matter in detail within a few days.

### ANXIOUS TO BEGIN WORK.

The committee informed the underwriters that the business men were very anxious to get a start at cleaning away the wreckage at the earliest opportunity. The insurance men answered that permits for this work were still in abeyance. They added that if any property holder held policies in less than six counties, permits would be granted right away in bulk, but that all those who were insured in more than six counties must wait and receive individual permits from the underwriters.

Knight reported that the underwriters had estimated headquarters in the Ferry building and would be ready to receive all property owners of the downtown business section and talk matters over with them in detail at any time. Regarding settlement of policies Knight explained that the underwriters were still undecided and were anxious to confer with their attorneys before taking any definite action.

The underwriters are at present in conference with their legal advisers throughout the world, and when the latter hand in their opinions they will be ready to talk of settlement at short notice. A form of the losses of practically all the large insurance companies has been printed already and copies will be distributed among the business men within a few days.

A. A. Moore Jr., who represents the Blythe estate and other great interests, said that he had been in conference with prominent insurance men and that they informed him that they had on file at the present time more than 2000 applications for payment of losses from property owners throughout the city. The insurance officials informed Moore that in nearly every instance these people were fairly as to their losses, most of them claiming total destruction by fire and immunity from the earthquake.

### WIDENING OF STREETS.

Moore suggested that as a matter of safety all the business men make honest acknowledgment of the damage done and not try to work any "bunko scheme" on the insurance companies. For, he added, the companies were prepared to fight all unfair claims. The insurance men have splendid photographs of the unburned district of the city showing the damage done by the earthquake. The insurance men are claiming that like damage was done by the temblor in the business section.

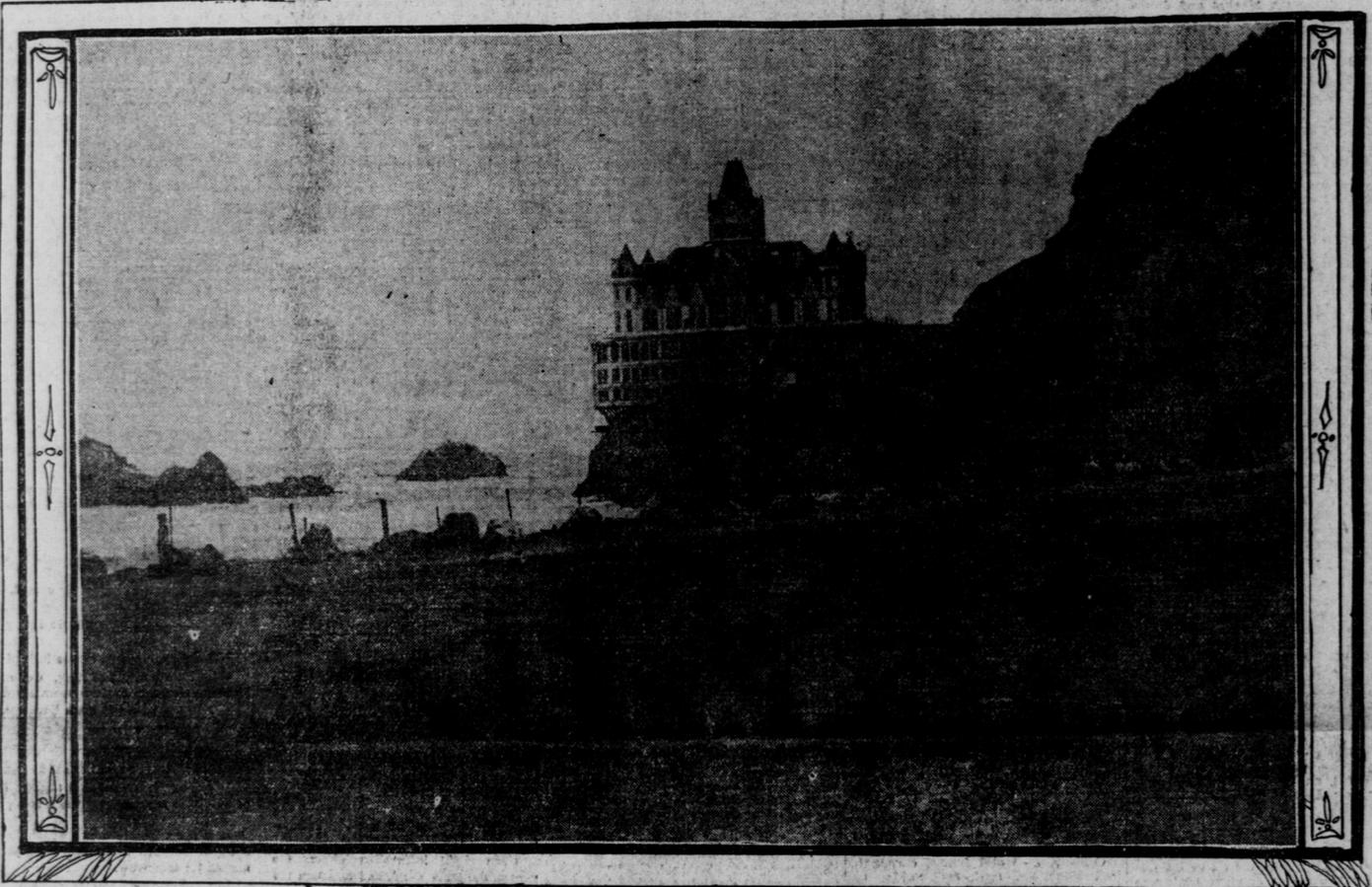
At this juncture a resolution was unanimously adopted inviting Henry M. Spencer of the underwriters to be present with his committee at the next meeting of the business men next Tuesday morning when the matter will be thoroughly threshed out and details fully discussed.

Chairman Moore of the building permits committee reported that much progress had been made by it. He added that in his opinion, permits would be granted for reconstruction work within the next week. Moore said the most important detail this committee would have to look after was that of the proposed plans of widening and extending the streets and that a report in full from the committee would be necessary before any rebuilding could be done.

In Moore's opinion, no holder of property on Montgomery street will be in a position to rebuild till he knows just what will be done with the thoroughfare. At the present

# TITLE SEARCHING CONCERNS ARE IN POSSESSION OF COPIES OF ALL RECORDS DESTROYED BY FIRE

## Two Sets Are Available and They Can Be Used to Help Straighten Out Question of Property Rights.



THE CLIFF HOUSE, STILL STANDING ABOVE THE SEA, UNDAUNTED BY THE EARTHQUAKE.

## SAN QUENTIN ATTRACTS HER

### Mrs. Cordelia Botkin Times of Life at the County Jail.

### Judge Cook Grants Request of the Twice-Convicted Murderess.

Mrs. Cordelia Botkin has been ordered at her own request from the branch County Jail on the Mission road to the State's prison at San Quentin. It is reported that the prisoner is annoyed by the crowded conditions in what has been her home for so long, and desires a change. It is probable that she will have roomier quarters in the penitentiary. She wrote three letters to Knight & Heggerty, her attorneys, requesting that steps be taken to effect her transfer, and they then furnished her with a communication which she sent to Judge Carroll Cook. The latter, after hearing the facts in the case, yesterday morning, immediately issued the desired order.

Mrs. Botkin's letter follows: "I, Cordelia Botkin, the defendant in the case of The People vs. Cordelia Botkin, now on appeal to the Supreme Court of the State of California, without, however, in any manner waiving or relinquishing any of my present rights to be heard or to have my said appeal determined by said court, and solely for the purpose of changing the place of my confinement while awaiting a decision of said Supreme Court of California, do hereby request that you give, make and enter in my case an order revoking and setting aside the certificate of probable cause heretofore granted in my case and directing that I be immediately removed from the Branch County Jail to the State Prison at San Quentin, there to be detained until the further order of court."

### Muslims Fight Christians.

CETTINJE, Montenegro, May 15.—There have been two days of fighting at the villages of Stogor and Barizite, in the district of Tachlidja, between Muslims and Nizams on one side and Christians on the other. Several persons were killed or wounded. Christian families have fled with their stocks across the Montenegro frontier.

### Hayashi Japan's Foreign Minister.

LONDON, May 15.—The Daily Telegraph's correspondent at Tokio reports that Viscount Hayashi, formerly Japanese Ambassador to Great Britain, accepted the office of foreign minister.

## FRAGMENT OF LOST GOSPEL RECOVERED IN HISTORIC RUINS

### Drs. Grenfel and Hart Make an Important Discovery on Site of an Ancient Monastery.

### Bring to Light a Tiny Scrap of Vellum Perforated by Worms and Yellowed by Centuries.

### It is Written in Greek Characters, Microscopically Minute, but Writing is Perfectly Legible.

LONDON, May 15.—Drs. Grenfel and Hart, during continuing researches of the ruins of Oxyrhynchus, whose ancient monasteries some years ago yielded the famous Logia of Christ, found a fragment of a supposed lost gospel which is now in Queens College, Oxford.

It is a tiny scrap of vellum, perforated by worms and yellowed by sixteen centuries, but the writing is perfectly legible. It is written in Greek characters, which are almost microscopically minute, with scarlet initials. There are about 300 words.

It is certainly no part of any extant gospel, but its theological value must be left to the theologians. It is unusually well written from a literary viewpoint. It begins in the middle of a speech, Jesus and his disciples have entered the temple and met a Pharisee, who rebukes them for omitting some ceremonial of ablution.

Jesus asks the Pharisee what the latter has done to comply with the ceremonial. The Pharisee's reply minutely describes the process of purification, of which no previous authority has given the details.

Then follows a powerful, eloquent denunciation by Jesus of mere outward purification, he saying that he and his disciples have been purified by the waters of life. There is also a mention of a hitherto unknown part of the temple called the Hegneuterian or place of purification.

Theological circles are greatly interested in the discovery, which promises a sensation equal to that created by the Logia of Christ.

### Posse Kills an Inane Man.

ATLANTA, Ga., May 15.—James H. Clark, night telegraph operator at Chamber, a village near here, killed one man and seriously injured three yesterday while mentally unbalanced from drink. He was shot and killed by a posse.

## BRAUNHART DENIES STORY THAT HE DIED IN A LOCAL HOSPITAL

### Expects to Be on the Street in Short Time to Prove That He is in Land of the Living.

### Action of a Nephew in New York Laying Claim to His Estate Makes Him Feel Angry.

### Former Supervisor Says He Rather Enjoyed the Nice Things Printed in His Obituary Notices.

Former Supervisor Samuel Braunhart yesterday denied that he had died at the German Hospital, at the same time saying that he had rather enjoyed the kind things said about him in his obituary notices. While still in a weakened condition as the result of a long siege of illness, Braunhart has strong hopes to demonstrate to his friends by ocular proof that he is still in the land of the living, and hopes to be for some time to come.

Braunhart said he did not mind the reports of his death so much as the action of a nephew of his living in Brooklyn, New York, who sent the following telegram to Ed Brannan of Tiburon: "Take full charge of body of Sam Braunhart. Have cremated and take care of papers. I am his sole executor and will telegraph you money if wanted. Will be out there as soon as possible." MAX BERNSTEIN.

"Braunhart's Nephew."

Braunhart thinks that it is adding insult to injury to kill a man first and then to order him cremated when he is not physically dead. If Max Bernstein carries out his intention to come here to claim Braunhart's effects he will see a lively corpse. No doubt he will hear some warm words of welcome from his quasi-deceased but loving uncle. Braunhart was also amused at the resolutions of regret passed by the Board of Supervisors at its meeting on Monday afternoon, a course which rather confirmed the published reports of the ex-Supervisor's reputed death.

### Refugee Killed by a Train.

POINT RICHMOND, May 15.—C. Riley, a refugee at Camp Rockefeller, was killed this morning by a Southern Pacific train.

## WOMEN MAKE HERO OF GORKY

### Fight for Chance to Shake Hands of Polygamous Russian Writer.

### Many Persons Bruised in Crush Before the Doors of a Lyceum.

NEW YORK, May 15.—Men and women fought for a chance to shake hands with Maxim Gorky at the close of an address to more than 2000 persons in the Labor Lyceum, Williamsburg, last evening. Many were bruised and the fact that no one was seriously injured was considered surprising. It was nearly an hour before Gorky and his bodyguard of twelve men were able to fight their way to the street.

When the meeting, under the auspices of the Russian Revolutionary Society, was opened every chair was taken and of the 2000 auditors at least 500 were women. As Gorky appeared on the platform enthusiasm broke forth. Men and women arose and yelled their welcome, and in their excitement hats, coats—in fact, all things available—were thrown into the air.

After the address Gorky retired to his dressing-room to wait for the hall to empty. The audience had no idea of going, however, and crowding to the open door of his room, where a cordon of club members stood guard, it shouted his name at the top of its lungs, crying that it wished to shake his hand—to be allowed to touch him. After a wait of twenty minutes Gorky decided to try to reach the street. His appearance was the signal for another outburst. Men and women fought to get to his side, and scores, slipping on the highly polished floor, were trodden on by their compatriots. Unable to get to the door, Gorky once more retreated to his dressing-room. Here a council of war was held and a final move decided upon.

Forming a flying wedge, twenty members of the association started down the center aisle for the door, with Gorky hugging his interference. It took them half an hour to get to the street.

### Key Route to Open New Branch.

OAKLAND, May 15.—The Twenty-second-street branch of the Key Route will open tomorrow morning. Trains will be operated from Broadway to the pier, connecting with the regular boats.

## INSURANCE MEN TAKE UP LOSSES

### Ninety-Three Claims to Be Adjusted Without Delay.

### Companies Designated to Provide Men to Dispose of Them.

### Water Inspector for the Underwriters Submits Report.

Ninety-three large losses, in which six or more insurance firms are interested, were taken up by the general adjusting committee of fifteen of the Fire Underwriters' Adjusting Bureau at a meeting held in Reed Hall, Oakland, yesterday, and companies were designated to provide men to adjust the claims. The losses on which this action was taken were as follows:

- News building, 342 Geary street.
- Brick building, southwest corner of California and Front streets.
- H. W. Johns-Manville Company, 32-42 Webb street.
- Main-Winchester-Stone Company, Battery street.
- Alphonse Judis Company, Mutual Savings Bank building.
- Yates & Co., 38-40 Stewart street.
- Crocker building, southeast corner Mission and First streets.
- Great American Importing Tea Company, 52 Market street.
- California Safe Deposit and Trust Company, southeast corner Montgomery and California streets.
- Bosqui Engraving and Printing Company, 302 Davis street.
- Techau Tavern Company, Mason street.
- Vickery, Atkins & Torrey, 234-236 Post street.
- Douglas Grant building, southeast corner Market and Seventh streets.
- C. B. Jennings & Co., 121 California street.
- Keystone Bros., Inc., 15 First street.
- E. H. Levy.
- City of Paris Dry Goods Company, Geary and Stockton streets.
- B. F. Goodrich Company, 392-394 Mission street and 83-93 Fremont street.
- Abner Doble Company, Howard and Fremont streets.
- Starr King building, Geary street, between Grant avenue and Stockton.
- James Basch.
- J. H. Pannin & Co.
- Union Iron Works.
- Goldman & Son, Sixteenth street.
- Vulcan Iron Works, Kearny and Francisco streets.
- Lachman & Jacob.
- Bancroft-Whitney Company.
- Carroll & Tilton Company.
- G. M. Kutz Shoe Company, 102-103 Mission street.
- Kohler & Chase, Mission street and Kearny street.
- Pacific Cereal Association, 210 Townsend street.
- H. & L. Block, 408-416 Valencia street.
- The Cudahy Packing Company, 418-420 Townsend street.
- Davis, Schonwasser Company, 125-134 Post street.
- F. B. Findley & Co., 422 Townsend street.
- Wellman, Peck & Co., 313-317 East street.
- Sherman, Clay & Co., 133-139 Kearny street.
- Pacific Meter Company, 220-222 Mission street.
- L. Santer & Son, 106-110 Sutter street.
- Sternberger & Kallisher, 609 Mission street.
- Stuparich Manufacturing Company, northeast corner Eighth and Brannan streets.
- Metropolitan Laundry Company, Alton avenue and Sixteenth street.
- Rosenbaum Estate Company.
- Kaufman shoe store, 830-834 Market street.
- C. D. H. Fredericks, 319 Montgomery street.
- Somer & Kaufman, 28 Kearny street.
- Red Front Clothing Company, 857-859 Market street.
- Brooklyn Cooperage Company, northeast corner Sansome and Union streets.
- Standard Biscuit Company, Front and Pacific streets.
- George W. Caswell Co. (Inc.), 412-414 Sacramento street and 407-9 Commercial street.
- Jesse Moore Hunt Co., 233-37 Post street.
- M. Friedman & Co., 233-37 Post street.
- Golden West Hotel building, Ellis street, and dwellings on Capp and Sixteenth streets.
- Crown-Columbia Pulp and Paper Co., 705-7 Front street.
- Bowers Rubber Co., 42 Sacramento street.
- San Francisco Hotel Co., the St. Francis.
- Mrs. Anna C. Sprেকেis, 1812-14 Sacramento street.
- Armand Callean (Inc.), 112-16 Kearny street.
- L. Dinkelspiel & Sons, 37-39 Battery street.
- Guggenheim & Co., 118 Davis street.
- Schmidt Lithograph Co., Bryant and Second streets.