

People of World Promptly Dispatch Aid to the Afflicted

WARSHIPS FIRST TO TAKE AID TO THE SURVIVORS

Hundreds Believed to Be Still Alive in Ruins of Destroyed Cities

Refugees Tell of Fearful Havoc Wrought in Fraction of a Minute

Tidal Wave Destroys Harbors and Lighthouses and Navigation Menaced

for the disaster which in the fraction of a minute yesterday devastated cities and towns, and caused the death of thousands.

Messina, whose tragic history has been marked by tidal waves and war, and which was the center of yesterday's terrestrial maelstrom, was shaken to ruins. Flames burst forth to complete the city's destruction and to burn alive untold numbers helplessly pinned beneath fallen walls and broken timbers.

The strait of Messina was shaken and twisted by the earthquake's trembling, for mariners report the channel altered beyond recognition. The ports and villages on both the continental and Sicilian sides were wrecked and inundated and all lighthouses along the coast were swallowed up. Navigation now is dangerous and in some places impossible.

In the Calabrian district, which was only beginning to recover from the effects of the earthquake of 1905, Reggio was the center of the earth's upheaval. The seaport of Reggio is reported as no longer existing and the city proper is in ruins.

The loss of life on both sides of the strait and in eastern Sicily was enormous. One of the refugees from Reggio, who was the first to bring the news of the city's destruction, tried to make his way to Sicily in a sailboat, but was compelled to return, and finally found safety at a peninsula port. In his experience he said:

"The sea was mysteriously agitated and the heavens were ablaze. Nearing Sicily the clearing smoke revealed the mystery; Messina was in flames. In the frenzy of despair I turned my boat back to Calabria."

Starving, bleeding from injuries and almost insane from their terrifying experiences, Messina's survivors are fleeing in all directions. The spectacle presented by the ruined seaport is described as terrifying. Tumbling buildings, both killed and mutilated many, while hundreds of the injured, imprisoned in the wreckage, were abandoned to their fate by the fleeing populace. One of those who escaped said:

"The earth seemed suddenly to drop and then turn violently on its axis. The whole population, who practically were precipitated from the houses rent in twain, were spun around like tops as they ran through the streets. Many fell crushed to death and others bewildered took refuge for breath beside the tottering walls, where they soon met the fate of their companions."

Already British and Russian squadrons have arrived at Messina. Sailors and marines have been disembarked and they have performed "courageous acts in rescuing the injured, and removing the wounded. A large number of survivors have been transferred to the warships, which are transformed into great floating hospitals. Steamers with doctors, druggists, firemen and workmen have arrived at Messina from Catania and other places.

Special dispatches received here from Calabria confirm the destruction of Reggio. They report that the situation there is as bad if not worse than at Messina. The streets in Rome are jammed with people, who as soon as they heard the news flocked to the streets.

All Nations Extend Aid.

The hands of all the nations have been extended to Italy in her affliction. From rulers have come messages of condolence and from the people spontaneous promise of that aid which brings the world closer together in time of great calamity.

Great Britain, France and Russia have sent their warships as quick as the flash of the telegraph could carry the orders to lend assistance to the stricken cities. Relief funds have already been started and a hundred ships and trains are on their way carrying supplies and reinforcements to the south. Rome, Milan, Florence, Naples and other cities are sending physicians, police and firemen.

The houses and theaters have been closed throughout Italy and dispatches of sympathy continue to pour in from all quarters of the globe.

Big Wave Follows Quake

At the time of the earthquake the torpedo boat Sappho was lying in the harbor at Messina and one of the officers told of the occurrence as follows: "At half-past 5 in the morning the sea suddenly became terribly agitated, seeming literally to pick up our boat and shake it. Other craft nearby were similarly treated, and the ships looked like bits of cork bobbing about in a tempest. Almost immediately a tidal wave of huge proportions swept across the straits, mauling the coasts

SCENES IN ITALIAN CITIES THAT HAVE BEEN LEFT BARE BY THE SCOURGE OF TEBLOR AND FLAMES

The upper photo shows a panorama of Catanzaro, where the damage has been enormous. To the right is the Cathedral square in Messina. The center picture shows the Bellini theater in Catania, now reported in ruins. The lower photo is that of the Chiesa Madre church in Cosenza.



PANORAMA OF CATANZARO



CATHEDRAL SQUARE, MESSINA



BELLINI THEATER IN CATANIA



CHURCH OF COSENZA

and carrying everything before it. Scores of ships were damaged and the Hungarian mail boat Andrassy parted her anchors and went chashing into other vessels. Messina bay was wiped out, and the sea was soon covered with masses of wreckage, which was carried off in the arms of the receding waters.

King and Queen on Way

King Victor Emmanuel and the queen, who left for the scene of the calamity, reached Naples tonight and proceeded at once to Sicily. A large number of people saw their majesties depart from home, and one among a number of deputies at the station observed to the king:

"The presence of your majesty will suffice to console the stricken people." The king turned sharply upon the speaker and said abruptly: "Don't talk nonsense."

Desperate calls have been made from Rome to Messina, but these remain unanswered, and fears are entertained that Fortepura, near Messina, has been destroyed, as the wireless station installed there is one of the most powerful in Italy and is evidently not working. The catastrophe has aroused the superstitions of the entire populace, who are running about the country calling upon all the saints and imploring their mercy. The superstition has been increased by the rumor that in the general destruction of Messina the statue of St. Rose remained uninjured.

Many Pinned Under Walls

The work of rescue at Messina, according to the meager details received here tonight, presented harrowing scenes. Hundreds of people were pinned under the walls and rafters, alive but terribly injured, for 30 hours. 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. In some cases heroic rescuers met death in the falling debris. In one house 20 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.

Six criminals were killed while attempting to loot the Bank of Sicily, where cash amounting to \$500,000 lay in plain view.

Latest reports received state that 4,000 soldiers from the various barracks at Messina were buried under the ruins. The rock of Charybdis now blocks the entrance to the strait of Messina. The tidal wave wrecked the lighthouse in the strait, including Faro beacon, and they crashed into the sea.

Sympathy Shown by French

PARIS, Dec. 29.—President Fallieres has sent a telegram of condolence to King Victor Emmanuel. Premier Clemenceau has sent a similar message to the Italian premier, while M. Pinchon, the French foreign minister, has communicated his sympathy to the Italian minister of foreign affairs.

Berlin to Aid Survivors

BERLIN, Dec. 29.—A committee has been organized in this city to assist the sufferers from the Italian earthquake.

NEW YORK ITALIANS ARE PROMPT IN RELIEF WORK

[Special Dispatch to The Call] NEW YORK, Dec. 29.—Fifteen thousand dollars has been subscribed by the Italian residents of New York city toward the relief of the stricken population of Sicily and Calabria in the 24 hours which have elapsed since the news of the disaster was received.

Every Italian organization in this city has begun the work of raising funds for the relief of their countrymen, and from every source contributions, both large and small, are steadily pouring in. Arrangements have been perfected for forwarding the money direct to the Italian Red Cross society at Rome, which is already on the scene of the disaster and which in

former catastrophes of similar nature rendered effective relief.

Foremost in the work of relief so far has been the Italian consul general, Count Massiglia; the Italian chamber of commerce, the Italian Red Cross society and Progresso. Early today, on learning of the catastrophe, Count Massiglia held a conference with Lionel Perra, the delegate of the Italian Red Cross society in this country, and other prominent Italian businessmen.

Prompt action was taken by Luigi Solari, president of the Italian chamber of commerce. A meeting was held at 3 o'clock and resolutions were adopted pledging the chamber of commerce to do all that it could to raise funds for the relief of the victims. Five hundred dollars was voted from the treasury for this purpose, and nearly \$2,000 was subscribed personally by the directors.

The first personal contribution to be made of any size was made by Enrico Caruso, who sent \$2,000. Headed by this contribution and one of its own for \$500 the contributions received by Il Progresso amount to more than \$2,000 thus far, and are the largest received.

Word was received tonight at the office of Il Progresso that the directors of the Metropolitan opera house had decided to give a concert January 10, the proceeds to be subscribed to Il Progresso's fund. It is expected that fully \$10,000 will be netted by this alone. Two other Italian papers have opened subscription lists.

PROMPT STEPS TAKEN TO RAISE MONEY IN EAST

CHICAGO, Dec. 29.—The earthquake in southern Italy has thrown Chicago's Italians into a state of consternation and despair. The Italian consulate was overrun with frantic visitors who clamored for direct news of 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.

BOSTON, Dec. 29.—A public appeal for relief for victims of the devastation in southern Italy was issued by Governor Guild today.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 29.—This city is preparing to offer assistance to the earthquake survivors.

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 Shields. "We should do as much for them."

CINCINNATI, Dec. 29.—The Cincinnati Italian businessmen's club has been called to meet in special session to devise means of relief for the earthquake sufferers in Italy.

FOREIGNERS ARE BURIED IN THE RUINS OF HOTEL

ROME, Dec. 29.—The minister of the interior has a telegram from Messina saying that the bodies of 70 English travelers and 30 Germans were buried beneath the ruins of the Hotel Trianoria, Victoria, and Bellevue at Messina.

One Hundred Lost

PALERMO, Dec. 29.—Refugees from

Red Cross Appeals to People of California

IMMEDIATE activity on the part of the officials of the California branch of the National Red Cross followed the receipt in this city of a telegram from Charles L. Magee, national secretary of the society, asking that an appeal for financial contributions be made by Mrs. Thurlow McMullen, the California secretary. The telegram follows:

Washington, D. C., December 29.
Mrs. Thurlow McMullen, San Francisco.
Issue an immediate appeal for money contributions for the Italian earthquake relief.

CHARLES L. MAGEE, Secretary.
A meeting of the local officers of the Red Cross was called immediately. Mrs. McMullen and F. W. Dohrmann held a short conference in Dohrmann's office, after which the following appeal was issued:

To the People of California:
The American National Red Cross has requested the California branch to make an immediate appeal to the people of California for contributions for the relief of the Italian earthquake sufferers. In view of the generous aid which our city and state received when it was suffering from a similar calamity, and in view of the greater distress which evidently exists in Italy at the present moment, quick and generous assistance is asked for from all who are able to contribute to this most worthy cause.

Contributions should be sent to Mr. Allen Knight, treasurer of the California branch, 502 California street.
BENJAMIN IDE WHEELER, President.
MRS. THURLOW McMULLEN, Secretary.

The first offer of assistance came to Knight from Sam Loverich, manager of the Princess theater, who tendered the society the use of that house for a benefit performance upon any date which the society might set. The date of the performance was not agreed upon yesterday.

Messina say that there were 100 foreigners in the Hotel Trianoria, and that they all lost their lives. The hotel has been completely obliterated. It was one of the best in the city and patronized almost exclusively by tourists. It was situated in the Via Garibaldi.

DEMENTED SURVIVORS WANDER IN THE RUINS

CATANIA, Dec. 29.—Refugees are pouring in by trains, steamers and automobiles. They are half naked and stupefied with terror. Some of them appear almost insane from the horrors through which they have gone. In the beginning they could only babble: "Messina has been devastated; the city has been annihilated."

Little by little some idea of the indescribable horror at Messina was obtained from these unfortunates.

They declare that thousands of demented survivors are still wandering about the ruins of the city. A wounded soldier said:

"The spectacle was terrifying beyond words. Dante's 'Inferno' gives you but a faint idea as to what happened yesterday morning at Messina. The first shock came before the sun had risen. It shook the city to its very founda-

Notable Earthquakes Take a Million Lives

PLACE.	YEAR.	LIVES LOST.
Catania, Sicily.....	1133	15,000
Syria.....	1158	20,000
Cilicia.....	1268	60,000
Naples.....	1456	40,000
Lisbon.....	1531	30,000
Naples.....	1626	70,000
Ragusa.....	1667	5,000
Schamaki.....	1672	80,000
Port Royal, Jamaica.....	1692	3,000
Sicily.....	1693	100,000
Aquila, Italy.....	1703	5,000
Yeddo (Tokyo).....	1703	200,000
Abruzzi, Italy.....	1706	15,000
Algiers.....	1716	20,000
Palermo.....	1726	6,000
China.....	1731	100,000
Naples.....	1732	1,900
Lima and Callao.....	1746	18,000
Grand Cairo.....	1754	40,000
Kaschan, Persia.....	1755	40,000
Lisbon.....	1755	50,000
Fez, Morocco.....	1755	2,000
Syria.....	1759	20,000
Martinico.....	1767	1,600
Tanris.....	1780	45,000
Calabria.....	1783	25,000
Bolivia.....	1797	40,000
Naples.....	1805	6,000
Kutch, India.....	1819	2,000
Aleppo.....	1822	20,000
Murcia, Spain.....	1828	6,000
Canton, China.....	1830	6,000
Calabria.....	1825	1,000
Martinique.....	1838	700
Cape Haitien, San Domingo.....	1842	5,000
Point a Pitre, Guadeloupe.....	1842	5,000
Great Sanger.....	1856	3,000
Calabria, Italy.....	1857	10,000
Quito.....	1859	5,000
Erzeroum, Asia Minor.....	1859	6,000
Mendoza, South America.....	1861	7,000
Manila.....	1863	1,000
Mitylene.....	1867	1,000
Peru and Ecuador.....	1867	25,000
Santander, Colombia.....	1875	14,000
Scio.....	1882	4,000
Cashmere.....	1885	3,000
The Riviera.....	1887	2,300
Yunnan, China.....	1888	4,000
Valparaiso, Chile.....	1906	1,500
San Francisco.....	1906	452
Kingston, Jamaica.....	1907	1,100
Total.....		1,192,552

road station only eight out of 230 employees 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 100 lives.

MOUNT ETNA SHOWING CONSIDERABLE ACTIVITY

CATANIA, Sicily, Dec. 29.—Mount Etna showed considerable activity this morning and the detonations, which were plainly heard in this city, together with the volume of smoke rolling out of the crater, added to the panic of the people.

According to the director of the local observatory this activity is directly connected with the earthquake of yesterday which wrought such havoc in Calabria and Sicily, but a great eruption is not expected. Such phenomena seldom accompany violent seismic disturbances.

COAST TOWNS TO AID IN THE WORK OF RELIEF

SAN JOSE, Dec. 29.—The local lodge of Elks today made arrangements to contribute \$100 toward the Italian relief fund and will send the money to California Red Cross headquarters in San Francisco.

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 29.—Local Italians have started a relief fund for the earthquake sufferers of Italy and this morning more than \$100 was raised. Prominent Italians will meet as soon as possible and organize a relief committee. Benefit performances will be arranged to raise funds and an effort will be made to have the Lombardi grand opera company now here give a performance for the earthquake victims.

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 29.—Members

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