

# THE HEGIRA FROM FRISCO== INVASION OF RELIC HUNTERS

Population of City Lowest for Thirty Years—  
A Great Stream of Relic Hunters  
Pours Among the Ruins.

WHEN THE WORLD KNOWS ALL THAT HAS HAPPENED IN SAN FRANCISCO IT WILL REALIZE THAT THE GREAT CITY OF THE PACIFIC HAS ENDURED THE MOST HORRIBLE DISASTER SINCE THE BEGINNING OF HISTORY. THE HUMAN SUFFERING COULD NOT BE DESCRIBED BY ANY PEN THAT HAS YET ENLIGHTENED THE WORLD.—DENT H. ROBERTS, EDITOR SAN FRANCISCO EXAMINER.

San Francisco, April 27.—There are fewer people residing in San Francisco now than at any time in the past thirty years. The city beside the Golden Gate has seen many great pageants, but never a larger one than the pitiful procession which filled its streets on Wednesday. From Broadway to Howard the water front was one mass, a mighty concourse of sorrowing ones, many of them passing out of the city for the last time. They came by thousands and tens of thousands. Two more days of this general exodus and the problem which has been troubling the wits and brains of officials will be scattered all over the state.

When the streets were packed with the slow-moving human tide, without warning there came a sudden, sharp earthquake shock. The effect was indescribable. It was as if a wave swept through the crowd. The horses knew the men about them were frightened, and they reared and plunged. The men cursed and the women screamed. Those who were near the ruins fled into the open places and looked up with the light of a great terror in their eyes. Then from every side came a sharp patter. The bricks were falling among the ruins. Even in the Chinatown district a wall collapsed with a muffled roar, and a yellow dust cloud riled up over the hills. It was only a glimpse of the great terror which swept this city a week ago. The fire they could see and flee from. The misery which came to them they bore like heroes, but at the slightest shiver of the ground under their feet they trembled and the blood faded from their faces. When they took up their march again it was with a quicker step.

as they now fit. The annihilation of Chinatown has been so complete, however, that little of value is likely ever to be found in the debris.

Around the ruins of the palaces of the bonanza kings swarmed nearly as many as over Chinatown, the search being for some slight trinket in its original form which it may be told in the future came from the burning Huntington or Stanford or some other widely-known residence.

The outer walls of the Crocker residence stand to a height of from 10 to 20 feet, otherwise the boasted palaces of the rich fill their own cellars in the form of worthless debris. So completely have these houses been destroyed that one may see the whole devastated district in all directions from any point on Nob Hill.

#### Shocking Offenses.

As the force of the initial shock becomes lighter facts of the most grave character are coming to light, and offenses heretofore not given publicity are being narrated. Not all of these offenses, either, have been committed by the irresponsible element. The most conclusive evidence has come to light that a considerable number of crimes against women have been committed, in which the soldiery is said to have been involved, one of the specific cases being that of a repeated attack on an Oakland schoolgirl, who was visiting in San Francisco, by one of the regulars. Heretofore the overshadowing fact of the disaster itself has been so great that individual persecution and murder has been lost sight of to a great extent by the public here, but with the opening of the city, the gradual alleviation of menacing conditions, innum-

#### THE BUILDERS.



Shutting Out the Specter in San Francisco.

#### THE INVASION.

The City Completely Thrown Open to the Public.

San Francisco, April 27.—San Francisco has been thrown completely open to the public. This course on the part of the authorities served to complicate the local situation to some extent, but relieved the tremendous pressure of suspense under which the entire coast and a large section of the east have suffered since April 18. There had been in force a pass system, which was intended to keep curious people out. All persons have been compelled to go to the chief of police of Oakland, who, if he thinks they have urgent business, issued a pass which got the bearer as far as the private secretary of Gov. Pawnee, who issued another pass through the military line of San Francisco.

All of the local trains in Oakland carrying passengers to the ferries are crowded to their capacity, and the ferry boats made their regular semi-hourly trips all day, crowded to the rails. This immense throng spreads over San Francisco. The only places at which crowds were halted were those near the buildings being dynamited.

#### Relic Hunters in Swarms.

No sooner was the city open to the public than the professional relic hunter made his appearance, provided with bags and baskets, and made his way straight for Chinatown. There was no guard in the ruined Chinese district to keep the photographers and relic hunters from carrying away such property

erale stories of individual horrors are being recounted.

#### Overwhelmed With Provisions.

The food committee reported that all necessary provisions are on hand and obtainable. They said that they were even overwhelmed with provisions. Perishable food is causing trouble. Mayor Schmitz drew up a telegram which was to be sent over the entire United States requesting all sources of relief to refrain from sending perishable food. Food supplies should be limited to staples.

#### Relief Funds At Hand.

The total amount of the relief fund up to and including Tuesday, April 24, as reported by the committee on finance, was \$2,306,43.05. Of this amount \$2,115,716.05 was from out of town sources, while the local subscriptions amounted to \$190,700. These figures are considerably lower than those published unofficially on several occasions, but the finance committee takes cognizance only of these subscriptions of which it has been definitely informed.

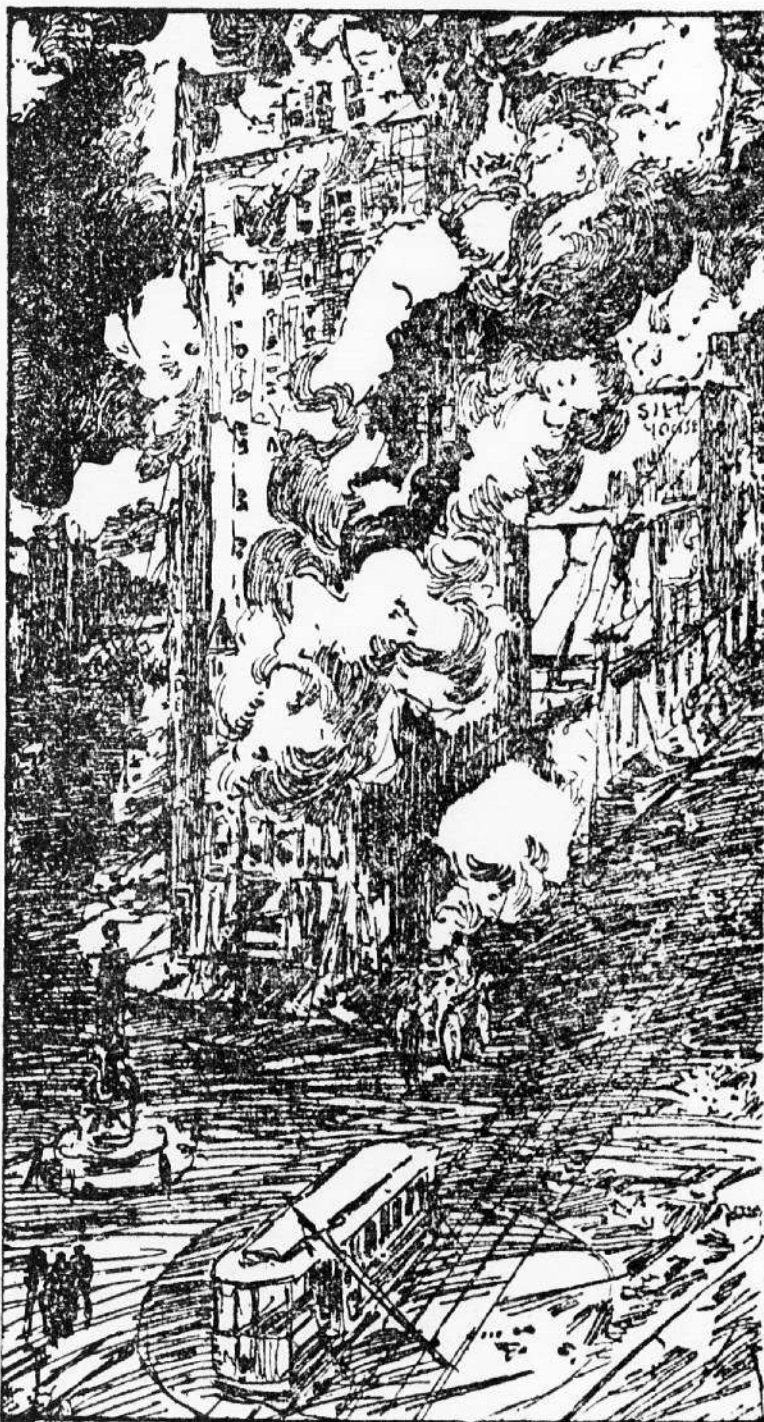
#### In the Ashes of Their Temple.

San Francisco, April 26.—With unwavering faith in the image of Heaven, 20 Chinese gathered in one desolate spot of the ruins of Chinatown, Wednesday morning, and worshipped in full compliance with the rites of their religion. In the ashes of their temple they knelt and silently offered their prayers.

#### Oakland's Banks Resume.

Oakland, Cal., April 26.—After being closed for a week, Oak and's 11 banks

#### BURNING OF THE CALL BUILDING.



The first actual sketch of the San Francisco fire made by a newspaper artist was that of Rowland R. Murdoch, who sent it to the Philadelphia Inquirer, on which he was formerly employed. He was near the heart of the fire in the newspaper district when the flames were at their worst and made the accompanying sketch.

#### PRESIDENT WITHDRAWS HIS FORMER RECOMMENDATIONS

He Suggests That Contributions Be Forwarded to San Francisco Finance Committee.

Washington, April 27.—The president believing that the exigency for working exclusively through the Red Cross has passed, has issued the following proclamation:

"To the Public:  
"When the news of the dreadful disaster at San Francisco first came, it was necessary to take immediately steps to provide in some way for the receipt and distribution of the sums of money which at once poured in for the relief of San Francisco. At the moment no one could foretell how soon it would be possible for the people of San Francisco themselves to organize, and to be over the interval the American National Red Cross association was designated to receive and distribute the funds.

"But the people of San Francisco, with an energy and self-reliant courage, a cool resourcefulness and a capacity for organized and orderly endeavor which are beyond all praise, have already met the need through committees appointed by the mayor of the city, ex-Mayor James D. Phelan being chairman of the finance committee. The work of these committees has been astonishing in its range, promptness and efficiency.

"As I am informed by Maj.-Gen. Greely, although all local transportation was destroyed, as well as practically every supply store in the city, these local committees, with the help of the army, have succeeded in caring for 300,000 homeless people in the last five days. Thanks to their efforts, no individual is now suffering severely for food, water or temporary shelter. This work has been done with the minimum of waste and under conditions which would have appalled men less trained in business methods, endowed with less ability or inspired with any but the highest motives of humanity and helpfulness. The need of employing the Red Cross, save as an auxiliary, has passed, and I urge that hereafter all contribution from any source be sent direct to James D. Phelan, chairman finance committee San Francisco.

"Mr. Devine, of the Red Cross, will disburse any contribution sent to him through ex-Mayor Phelan and will work in accord with him in all ways.

"THEODORE ROOSEVELT.  
"The White House, April 25, 1906."

resumed business Wednesday, in accordance with directions from the commissioners.

#### There Is No Epidemic.

San Francisco, April 26.—"Say to the people of California, of the United States and of the world, that there is no epidemic in San Francisco and no danger of one. If we are not entirely free of contagious diseases, we at least have fewer of them than we have under the circumstances any right to expect. Indeed, we have at this moment fewer cases of such disease than we had a month ago, and there is nothing in the present condition of affairs in San Francisco that would lead us medical men to fear an outbreak. The sanitation of the city is absolutely under control. We wish to impress this upon the people of San Francisco and of the outside world, for I have information that leads me to believe that alarmist

reports, emanating from certain sources in San Francisco, may result in an embargo being placed upon the movements of refugees from the city.

"The calamity we have endured is certainly unfortunate without adding to it this additional and unwarranted distress."

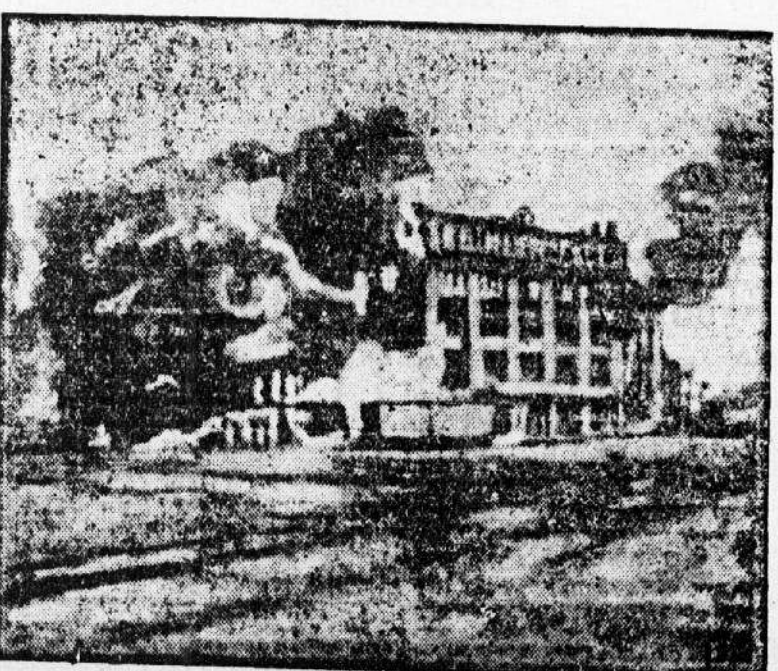
This statement was made by Dr. J. W. Ward, chairman of the health committee, at the meeting of the general committee.

#### Loses Half Its Reserve.

Liverpool, April 26.—Half of the reserve fund of the London and Lancashire fire insurance company (\$10,788,675), has been swept away by California losses.

The first box of California cherries of the season to arrive in New York sold for \$2,440, for benefit of Frisco sufferers.

#### SCENE OF DESTRUCTION IN CENTRAL PART OF CITY.



# GETTING AT FACTS IN SAN FRANCISCO

FIFTEEN SQUARE MILES, ARE  
ABOUT TEN THOUSAND  
ACRES FIRE SWEEP

THERE IS STILL A  
BIG CITY STANDING

Bellevue, Stoneburg, Hamilton, Hico and Surrounding Country Suffer Seriously—Crops Laid Waste in a Large Area—Fire in the Ruins.

San Francisco, April 25.—A prominent engineer, after a careful survey, has estimated that the area devastated by the fire is approximately 10,000 acres, of about fifteen square miles. Within this fifteen square miles were nearly 100 banks, some of the finest buildings in the world, thousands of mercantile and manufacturing establishments and more than 250,000 inhabitants, beside some 40,000 transients.

#### People Can Now Bathe.

The aggregate of fatalities will probably not exceed 700, and will certainly not reach 1,000, a striking proof of the masterly manner in which the civil and military authorities handled the situation. Notwithstanding the enormous and wide-spread destruction, the homes of 150,000 people are still standing practically uninjured. There is still a big city standing in San Francisco. Soldiers are still on guard. They patrol the streets with loaded guns over their shoulders.

The unburned section fairly hums with activity. All the little shops in the western addition are doing a rushing business.

The restrictions on the use of water for anything but external use have been removed. Every day the danger of epidemic seems smaller. There is absolutely no increase in the number of smallpox cases; no typhoid has appeared, and the cases of scarlet fever are few. Tents have come in so fast that few have to sleep out of doors. The crying need now is for clothes, and especially for blankets. A Red Cross patrol is enforcing rigid sanitary customs in the camps.

#### Looters in Chinatown Ruins.

Oakland, Cal., April 27.—Withdrawal of troops from the burned district in the section where Chinatown once stood has been followed by a raid of looters upon the ruins. Men and women by hundreds at once began work in the hot ashes in search of loot. Some

In the Western Addition and the moving from southwest to northeast. In the hotels women screamed and had made up their minds to leave the camps are now preparing to leave the bay.

#### When Will Shocks Cease?

The absorbing questions that the city of ruins are: "When will the convulsions cease?" "What will be the end?" Word comes from the conservatory that the vibrations will soon, but this bulletin is not to be declared it is only a guess. Many the men at work repairing buildings. Oakland have quit work, declaring they will do nothing more until earthquakes cease.

#### Robbed Distribution.

Several men have been found to have been systematically robbing distribution points. One small individual was found with 47 blankets stored away in his cellar. He had obtained them by representing himself and family to be in need. They have made a trip to every distribution point in the city. Another had twenty-three mattresses stored away. In both cases the goods were immediately confiscated. Several cases of a like nature have come to light.

#### Disposing of the Wreckage.

San Francisco, April 25.—As a come relief to the officials and citizens of San Francisco who have looked on the ruins of the city and upon the monstrous piles of bricks and twisted iron that were once homes and places of business, an announcement that the Southern Pacific railway will aid in any way the work of tearing away the debris. Railroad officials are ready to build track through the heart of the devastated city from Harrison street to the bay, and to run their flat cars in the wreckage that must be removed. New buildings can arise and conditions can be restored. In great work it is announced that between 3,000 and 4,000 men will be employed. The railroads will carry debris wherever the authorities permit it taken, and by so doing will make possible the performance of the enormous task that has been terrifying those who looked forward to the knowledge that it must be done.

#### Want Militia Withdrawn.

San Francisco, April 27.—Gov. Phelan has refused to withdraw the militia. The request for their withdrawal was made by the citizens' committee, and was the sequel of the shooting of Mr. H. S. Tilden, a prominent citizen by an inexperienced guard. Mr. Tilden was on his way in an automobile, and was flying the Cross flag. Mr. Tilden died instantly, and two others of the party were injured. Gen. Funston joined in the quest that the militia be removed. The shooting of Mr. Tilden has resulted in the organization of a vigilance committee, the first in San Francisco since the early 50s.

#### THE TIDAL WAVE.

[By McCutcheon, in Chicago Daily Tribune.]



searchers met with great success. Several pieces of valuable china were found entirely intact. Costly bronzes and other metal work were uncovered. One woman found a piece of gold worth several hundred dollars. It is supposed to have been coin which melted in the intense heat. The Chinese try to change all their money into gold coin.

#### Banks Preparing to Resume.

Commercial banks are preparing to resume business in a preliminary way. Before they open their vaults it has been arranged to pay depositors not exceeding \$500 on accounts. Each bank had considerable sums transferred to their credit by correspondents in London, Paris and New York. These transfers will be made at the mint and money will be available at that point. The form of procedure will be for a depositor to draw checks in usual forms. They will be indorsed by the cashiers or other officers of the bank and the customer may present it and have it cashed at the mint.

The Planing Mill association reports an encouraging situation. Fifteen of 33 mills escaped destruction. Two of the mills are now running.

#### Oakland After Trade.

Taking advantage of the plight of San Francisco, Oakland is making strenuous efforts to capture trade. A realty syndicate of wealthy men plans to reclaim 500 acres of tide lands near the Southern Pacific pier on the Oakland shore and construct wharves where big steamers can land. Plans for monster docks have already been drawn.

#### Another Earthquake.

Wednesday afternoon's earthquake shock of a few seconds' duration brought down a hundred tottering walls and started panic anew in the camps

#### PLANNING A GREATER CITY.

#### The Indomitable Spirit of the American People is Manifest.

By Sunday the people began to recover their sanity. That indomitable spirit that exists in the American people became manifest, and on all sides were heard determination to rebuild San Francisco, and to make a grander city. Merchants were planning to erect tents and begin business again. Soon there will be a business section of tents, followed by temporary wooden structures, and then will appear a city of substantial buildings. Great business blocks, now in ruins, will ere long be covered with magnificent structures of brick, stone and steel. The theaters and hotels will reappear, and the great newspapers will again be published from quarters as magnificent as days before the disaster.

#### Gen. Greely in Command.

San Francisco, April 24.—Gen. A. W. Greely is now in command of the federal troops at this post, superseding Gen. Frederick Funston, who will remain under his orders. Gen. Greely has established his headquarters at Fort Mason, just east of the Presidio reservation, on the north side of San Francisco Bay.

Pope Pius X. has sent a devotion to help the unfortunates in San Francisco.