

TOPEKA, KANSAS, JANUARY 1, 1909.

FRIDAY EVENING.

TWO CENTS.

LAST EDITION.

DAY MADE SAD.

A Veil of Sorrow Runs Through New Year Greetings

At the White House Owing to Italy's Misfortune.

FOR THE LAST TIME President Roosevelt Is Recipient of Good Wishes

On the Part of the Governments of the World.

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 their present chief executive and it was distinguished by the attendance of diplomatic representatives of nearly all the nations of the world, of officials from every branch of the government and of citizens in every walk of life.

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

To Mr. 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.

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 beautiful portico of the historic white mansion, waiting an opportunity to enter and to be presented to the president.

The first greetings of the day were extended to the 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 first hall on the second floor of the mansion.

With the presidential party was gathered above there was another assembly which had a more intimate character. In the prescribed attire of their respective courts, were the diplomatic representatives of the various nations, with a central figure in this company Baron Edmondo Mayor Des nez, the Italian ambassador.

As the president and Mrs. Roosevelt started down the staircase, followed by others of the receiving party, a blast of trumpets resounded throughout the mansion. The Marine band, in brilliant scarlet uniforms, was stationed by the state hall. The 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. Bromwell, U. S. Army, and by Capt. W. Butt, military aide to the president.

With the reception of those accorded special honors by the president, the main callers, stretching from the portals of the White House, through the grounds and out along Pennsylvania avenue, were admitted to the blue room.

As the reception of this procession entered the White House the policemen who had struggled for hours to keep the stream of humanity in the line were almost entirely exhausted. The president had a friendly word of greeting for each visitor, and seemed to be in the best of spirits. After the public reception the president led the way to the dining room, where the president and Mrs. Roosevelt had left the line before the public was admitted to the White House. So had most of the callers. The president's wife who had been invited to step behind the line, Miss Ethel had mingled with the crowd throughout the morning. The president disappeared with some of her young friends early in the day.

MONEY POURS IN.

Contributions to Relief of the Earthquake Sufferers Are Reported From All Quarters of the Country.

SHE GIVES \$100,000.

Canada Makes a Liberal Appropriation for the Fund.

Adolphus Busch Makes Subscription of \$25,000.

Rome, Jan. 1.—The Lipari islands have not been destroyed, nor has there been any loss of life there.

This news, received with prayers of gratitude throughout Italy, has just been brought in by the torpedo boat sent out by the government to investigate. Grisco, at Messina, Rome, Jan. 1.—Despite the first assertions that William H. Bishop, United States consul at Palermo, was not in the island of Sicily at the time of the earthquake, the American embassy now believes that he is there. All efforts to communicate with him, however, have been fruitless.

French Squadron Arrives. Messina, Jan. 1.—A French squadron has arrived here to assist in the relief work. Five thousand troops also arrived and are being scattered through the city to assist the wounded and keep order.

Americans Were Lucky. Naples, Jan. 1.—Up to the present time 2,000 persons from the earthquake zone have arrived here. The hospitals are all filled and the churches, public halls and theaters are being fitted up to receive others. Many of the injured were taken by force to the hospitals, becoming frenzied with the idea of being compelled to enter the institutions. The tank steamers filled with drinking water have left here for Messina. A large number of the persons saved by the sailors of the Russian torpedo boat, deprived themselves of food and drink in order that the sufferings of the more unfortunate might be alleviated.

Vote of Condolence. Rio Janeiro, Jan. 1.—The senate has passed a vote of condolence with Italy on the terrible calamity in the province of Calabria and Sicily. The Italian, Brazilian and German banks have subscribed \$1,000 for the sufferers and the amount, together with that realized from the subscription being taken by the Journal of Commerce and those that have been opened all over the state will amount to a handsome sum.

Spain Sends a Cruiser. Madrid, Jan. 1.—The government has ordered the cruiser Gataluna to Messina to assist in succoring persons in distress there.

French Women to Help. Paris, Jan. 1.—A party of French women, members of the Red Cross society, have left here for Messina to minister to the wants of the sick and wounded.

Reggio Death List 20,000. Rome, Jan. 1.—An official dispatch received here from Reggio says that the death list there apparently amounts to 20,000.

Toronto Gives \$5,000. Toronto, Jan. 1.—The board of control has unanimously decided to grant \$5,000 for the relief of Italy's earthquake sufferers. Public subscription lists have been opened.

Cincinnati's Mite. Cincinnati, Jan. 1.—A total of \$375 has been donated in this city to the fund for the relief of the earthquake sufferers of Italy.

(Continued on Page Eight.)

USHERED IN BY FIRE.

New Year at Showhegan Makes a Bad Beginning.

Showhegan, Me., Jan. 1.—Fire destroyed two business blocks and damaged three others and burned five tenement houses in the heart of this city, early today. Two of the houses were dynamited to clear the way from the flames, and it was only after eight hours work that the local department assisted by apparatus from Waterville and Falmouth, succeeded in bringing the fire under control. The loss is estimated at \$400,000.

The fire started from some unknown cause in the basement of the brick Gould block, which was totally destroyed.

The second and third floors constituted the Hotel Oxford. Two firemen, Harry Jackson and Harry Mitchell were injured and taken unconscious from the ruins.

ABRAMS PROMOTED.

To Become Assistant Superintendent of a Colorado Road.

John H. Abrams, who has been at the head of the Ball freight department of the Santa Fe and service inspector with headquarters in Topeka, has been appointed assistant superintendent of a division of a Colorado railroad and will leave Topeka in a few days with his family for his new home.

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YEAR STARTS OUT WELL.

There Is No Snow and Atmosphere Is Clear and Crisp.

All that Topeka needs, today, the first day of the New Year to make the winter scene complete is a blanket of snow, but this is missing and there is little prospect that the desire for sleighing weather will be gratified—not for a few days at least. The temperatures have been slightly higher than during the past 24 hours, but at the freezing point the greater part of the day. There was a trace of sleet about 9:30 last night.

Speaking of the year and month just closed, Assistant Weather Observer Flora said, "The report which has just been issued by the Topeka weather station reveals a number of peculiar conditions, December just closed was the seventh warmest and the second driest of which we have any record, but there has been a much greater amount of sunshine than usual.

The year just closed is the third wettest on record with 42.20 inches of precipitation, the wettest being the year of the great floods, 1903 with a precipitation record of 44.14 inches. It was also the third warmest year of which we have a record and the only year during the past 25 in which the temperature failed to go below three degrees above zero. It is also remarkable in that we have had but one other year during the past 25 in which the temperature failed to go above 95, the maximum for the year 1903."

The following were the temperatures since 7 o'clock this morning:

Table with 2 columns: Time and Temperature. 7 o'clock ... 18.10 o'clock ... 13 8 o'clock ... 16.11 o'clock ... 19 9 o'clock ... 16.12 o'clock ... 20

DR. FISK POISONED.

Takes Carboic Acid by Mistake—Life Saved by Prompt Action.

By a mistake in the medicine bottle, Dr. D. M. Fisk, the eminent Washburn professor, came very near to ending his life last night. The doctor has been ill with grip and has been taking a mixture of strychnine, wine and iron which looks the same as a bottle of carboic acid sitting near. Without looking at the label the doctor poured a spoonful of the acid into some sugar and swallowed it. Mr. Green Millican, his son-in-law, and a medical student, fortunately came in just at the time. Hastily he gave a glass of milk to Dr. Fisk and ran for Dr. Daines, the professor of chemistry, who lives near. They then got a stomach pump from Dr. Adams, who lives just across the alley, and administered it. The college commandant, Mr. Green Millican, is said to be feeling well this morning considering a grip patient and no evil effects of the accident are noticed.

The timely arrival of Mr. Millican, coming doctor, and the nearness of so many other kinds of doctors in the college commandant's vicinity, probably, saved the life of Dr. Fisk.

THEY DIED TOGETHER.

Couple Could Not Stand the Loss of Their Daughter.

New York, Jan. 1.—Unable to endure the thought of spending their declining years without the cheering presence of their daughter, Prof. J. P. Gordy of New York university and his wife committed suicide a few hours after the death of their girl, 18 years old. After giving way to their grief, the parents appeared more resigned and the physician and nurses left. The two then retired to their apartments and getting into bed, swallowed the contents of three bottles of chloroform. Two hours later Prof. James E. Lough of New York university, who occupies apartments adjoining those of the Gordys, traced the odor of chloroform to his friends' rooms. He summoned Dr. Van Sant Vord, the Gordy family physician, and the two broke in the door. They found the couple clasped in each other's arms and both dead.

Prof. Gordy was a recognized authority in political history.

Weather Indications. Chicago, Jan. 1.—Forecast for Kansas: Fair tonight and Saturday. Warmer tonight.

FIRST GOOD NEWS

Only Slight Damage Was Done on the Lipari Islands.

Few Buildings Wrecked and No Loss of Life.

DYING IN ANGUISH.

Thousands Still Beneath Ruins Must Perish.

Inland Towns Are Still Without Any Form of Relief.

Rome, Jan. 1.—The first cheerful news since the devastation of Calabria and eastern Sicily by earthquake and tidal wave last Monday, was received this morning by the minister of marine. A dispatch from the commander of the torpedo boat sent post haste to verify the report that the Lipari, or Aeolian islands, had been engulfed and all of the population, some 28,000 people annihilated, brought the grateful information that while the islands had experienced the earthquake only a few buildings have been demolished and that no lives were lost.

Otherwise the story coming from the south today is a repetition of the previous recitals of devastation, suffering starvation and horror. The king and queen of Italy continue their pious pilgrimage along what was once the beautiful and smiling eastern coast of Sicily, but which today is a desolated region strewn with unseparated dead and where thousands are dying in anguish amid the ruins of their homes. The duke of Aosta is also on the scene devoting himself to the succor of his countrymen. The duke has visited Palmi and all the surrounding villages. This section after Messina and Reggio suffered more heavily than any other. The duke said to one of the aids with him: "Secure from God."

The catastrophe indeed is a scourge from God. The time has come when it is no longer possible to think about those beneath ruins. All hope of saving any of these unfortunates after the four days that have elapsed since the disaster must of necessity be abandoned. All our efforts must be devoted to caring for the wounded survivors.

In view of these conditions the government has decided to concentrate its energies to removing the wounded to points where they can receive proper attention. Uninjured survivors also will be assisted from the devastated territories and it is hoped that in this way serious epidemics can be avoided.

The colossal emigrant steamships that for years past have been engaged in transporting the surplus population of Calabria and Sicily to the four corners of the world, but especially to the United States, are today being employed in removing the sick and refugees to places of safety. Messina and Reggio, the two typical southern cities of Italy, are today no more. The ruins of land and sea has completed their ruin and what little remains—heaps of shattered masonry covering countless dead bodies—is now to be covered with quick lime to prevent the outbreak of epidemic. The system of gathering the survivors on board the huge emigrant steamers will solve one of the most important problems that confronts the authorities—namely that of feeding the people. If it is found impossible to set the refugees on shore, and the land accommodations are rapidly filling up with the injured, they can be fed on board ship for each vessel is provided with 30 days rations for a full passenger list, and this means will give time for decisions as to where the unfortunates had best be landed.

This advantage of feeding, however, applies only to the survivors of Reggio and Messina. There are still scores of

THE WATER CURE.

Board of Investigators Making a Thorough Examination Into the Methods of Treatment Given Lansing Convicts.

STRAPPED IN A CRIB.

Manner of Punishing Prisoners Gone Into Closely.

Eat Dinner With Jail Birds and Declare It Good.

Leavenworth, Kan., Jan. 1.—The board of investigation, appointed by Governor E. W. Hoch began their inquiry into the administration of affairs of the state prison at Lansing in deep earnest.

The most striking part of Thursday's work came late in the afternoon when the board placed Dr. Kanavel, the prison physician on the stand to testify.

Dr. Kanavel described the "water cure" in detail and surprised the board by declaring that he would gladly undergo the punishment to show the workings and the harmlessness of it. The investigators replied it was not necessary.

"The prisoner to be punished was strapped in a crib or frame crate in a sitting position and water at sixty pounds pressure was administered through a hose at about six feet distance," said the doctor.

"Was any effort made to force the nozzle into the mouth of the man under punishment?"

"Never," replied the physician. "The water cure as administered here was not injurious."

He explained that before this punishment was used the food of the inmates was always subjected to a medical examination. He testified this punishment had been discontinued in July last.

The members of the committee examined the "crib" used to restrain insane convicts and punish incorrigibles. "Why do you use the coops," exclaimed F. D. Coburn, of the board. He measured the crib and found it large enough to allow a large man to lie down in comfort. The cribs have not been in use for several months.

Dr. Kanavel said that never had a prisoner complained to him of the diet.

The members of the committee then asked Dr. Kanavel about the food. He said it was his duty to inspect all the food in the prison and that he had never seen more than a hard-boiled egg after he did the best he could. He testified that no patient had ever complained to him about the food or said that he was ill from anything he ate. At this point Mr. Coburn looked at an anonymous letter he took from his pocket and read: "Dear Dr. Kanavel, I had been rejected December 24."

One Load of Beef Rejected. "Yes, the warden and I inspected it and decided it was too lean and not up to the standard," said Dr. Kanavel. "The warden is very particular about the meat."

Dr. Sheldon turned to Warden Haskell, who was in the room, and asked him about the meat.

"We won't allow any old cows to be put in here," said Warden Haskell. "We must have good flour and meat here. Our board buys a good grade of flour. It doesn't take the cheap grades like nearly every place. I don't accept meat that is only fit for canning."

Warden Haskell then told of rejecting oatmeal and other food at various times.

Here Mr. Coburn said: "I had three complaints from prisoners today and they were all about the hash. One said bad meat and rotten onions were put in the hash. What do you know about that?"

Dr. Kanavel informed him that the prisoners prepared the onions and meat and it was he that allowed it to go in. Mr. Coburn remarked that there seemed to be more complaint about the bad cooks than the quality or quantity of food. Prof. Blackmar asked Dr. Kanavel about the tea. Miss Kate Bernard, in her report on the penitentiary, said that only three pounds were allowed for the evening meal.

Weak Tea for Prisoners' Health. "I cut the strength of the tea one-half from three to two," said Dr. Kanavel. "I would like to reduce it again for the benefit of the health of the prisoners. It was reduced solely to save their health."

"How about the health of the men in the mine?" asked Dr. Sheldon.

"The men in the mine have the best of health with the exception of the men we have. The mine takes of three cars a day is not heavy."

The committee adjourned to meet at 1 o'clock this morning, when F. I. Jackson, attorney general, is to be on hand and the examination of witnesses will be resumed.

Women Prisoners Questioned. Here several of the prisoners were questioned, including Jessie Morrison. Miss Morrison, as well as the others, showed great kindness and consideration was shown all women prisoners, that the food was good and wholesome and that everything was as pleasant as their lot as pleasant as the prison rules would permit.

The board at noon without warning, walked into the dining hall and ate at the table with the convicts. They declared the meal as good as that of the average Kansas farmer.

ALL SALOONS CLOSED.

It Is Now Unlawful to Sell Liquor in Alabama.

Mobile, Ala., Jan. 1.—At 12 o'clock last night the saloons of Alabama were placed under the ban. It is now against the law to sell liquor in the state. In Mobile and Mobile county all the school funds come directly from the taxes on the sale of intoxicating liquors. Information from all over the state is that officials enforced the law to the letter.

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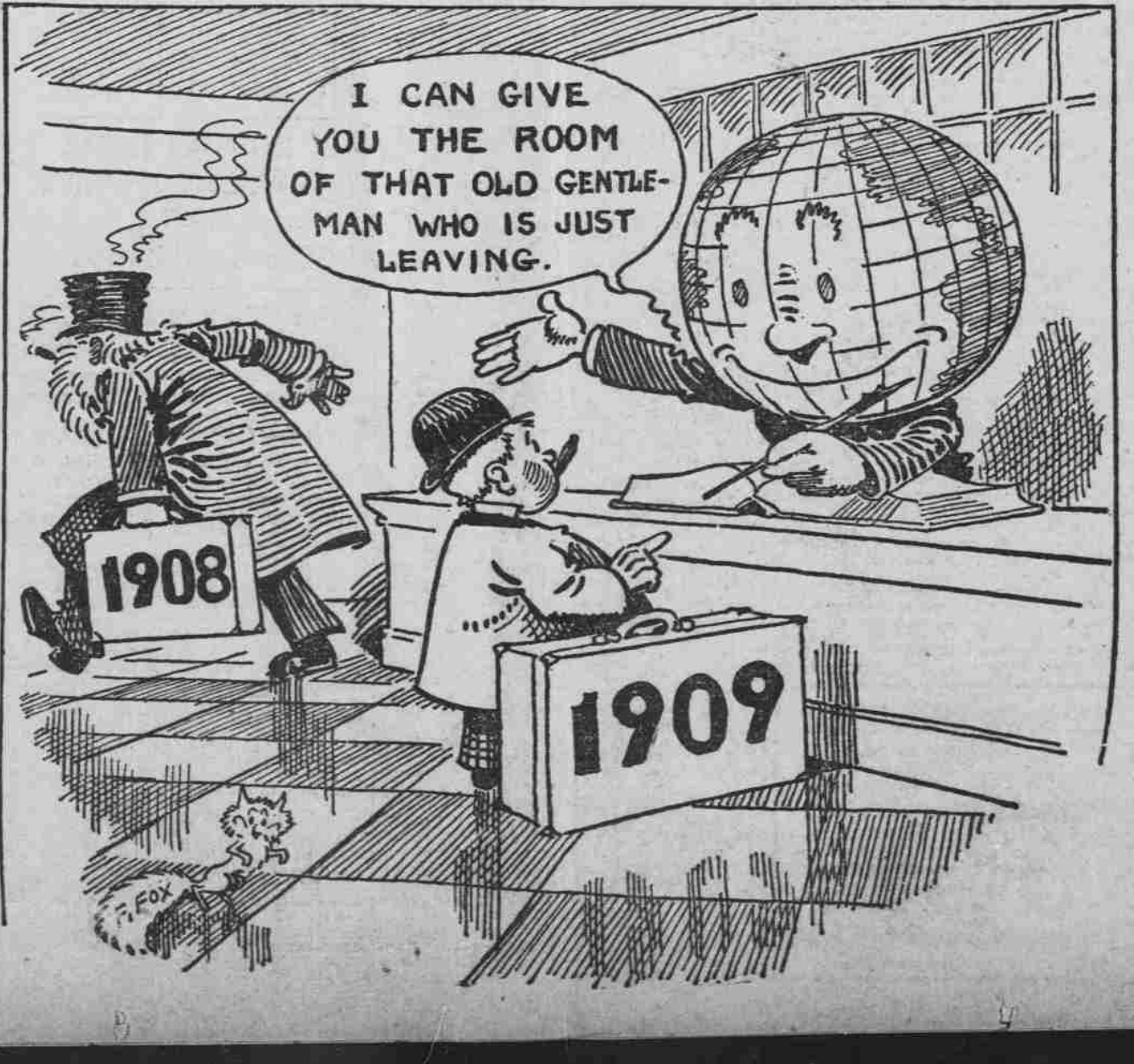
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PROFITS SMALLER.

Business of 1908 Was Below the Two Previous Years.

New York, Jan. 1.—Bradstreet says: "Quietly but surely the trade in the country, with pre-inventory rates among both buyers and clearance offerings by the retailers of leading features. Trade in regular lines felt the influence of unreasonable inventory early in the year, but toward the close a cold wave, the week gave some stimulus to business in reasonable lines. Collections are now being arrived at in many lines of wholesale trade. While conditions are feeling more promising, the year as a whole, the year was below 1906 at many cities and profits certainly smaller all around." It is noted that reports from the surplus-producing sections of the west are relatively quiet. Collections are slow, with shut-downs and inventories have for quiet in industry, but it is noted that while there is yet much idle machinery or capacity, still the feeling generally in all lines as compared with a year ago has very much improved and optimism now rules where depression was so visible twelve months ago. Stocks of goods are small in all positions and a good trade is looked for in 1909, but

BISHOP GIVE \$1,000.

J. J. Hennessy Makes Magnificent Contribution to Earthquake Sufferers.

Wichita, Kan., Jan. 1.—Bishop John J. Hennessy of the Wichita diocese of the Catholic church today telegraphed \$1,000 to the Sicilian and Italian earthquake sufferers as a personal contribution.

Crepe on Saloon Door.

Biloxi, Miss., Jan. 1.—For the first time in 300 years Biloxi is without saloons, the seven that were operating here going out of business yesterday when statutory prohibition became effective in Mississippi. One saloon is adorned with huge bunches of crepe and the legend: "Gone, but not forgotten."