

A SHOCK IN CHILE.

City of Valparaiso Has Been Damaged by Earthquake, How Seriously Is Not Yet Known.

FIRE SAID TO BE RAGING.

Recorded on Seismographs at Washington-Tidal Disturbances at Honolulu-Communication with Other Cities Cut Off.

New York, Aug. 18.—The city of Valparaiso, Chile, is reported badly damaged by earthquake. One report received here is that the situation in Valparaiso may prove to be as serious as the San Francisco disaster.

Practically every building in the city is damaged and there are fires in different parts of the city. Many persons are reported killed and injured. The earthquake has interrupted cable facilities to lower South American points and communication is restricted to the route via Lisbon.

Another report from Valparaiso is that the loss of life has not been confirmed. Fires are burning in various parts of the city.

One report which reached this city said that portions of Valparaiso were burning all night and that the bodies of hundreds of its residents were buried in the ruins of the buildings.

The Central and South American Telegraph company have re-established their main office in Valparaiso and are working with that city now. This would seem to show that conditions are not as serious as at first reported.

Valparaiso is a fortified seaport of Chile and the most important commercial town of the western coast of South America. It has a population of about 150,000. It is the capital of a province of the same name and is situated on a large bay in the Pacific ocean, 75 miles northwest of Santiago with which it is connected by rail.

The port of Valparaiso is the terminus of important lines of steamers for Europe by way of the Straits of Magellan and Panama, and is the center of South American coasting services.

Washington, Aug. 18.—The weather bureau Friday issued the following earthquake bulletin:

"A very heavy, distant earthquake was recorded on seismographs at the weather bureau in Washington Thursday afternoon beginning at six minutes and 23 seconds past seven p. m. 75th meridian time. Complete and perfect records were obtained of both the north and south and the east and west movements of the earth.

"From press reports this is evidently a record of the great Chilean earthquake of August 16 and is the heaviest recorded in Washington since the San Francisco earthquake."

Buenos Ayres, Aug. 18.—In the absence of telegraphic communication beyond Puente Del Inca, it has been impossible up to this hour to obtain accurate details of the destruction by the earthquake in Chile. The managers of the telegraph companies here state that nothing is coming through. Press reports purporting to come from Chile are purely imaginary. London and New York are eager seeking for news from the affected district.

New York, Aug. 18.—A private cable dispatch to W. R. Grace & Co., from Valparaiso received by way of Lima, Peru, says that the earthquake in Valparaiso was severe and that business in the city has been totally suspended.

New York, Aug. 18.—At 11:30 o'clock Friday night the Central Cable office of the Western Union Telegraph company received a service message stating "the Valparaiso office is closed until 7 o'clock tomorrow morning." No reason is given for this and neither this nor any other message received by the company Friday night throws any more definite light upon the situation in Chile.

Honolulu, Aug. 18.—The tide gauges here show a disturbance, apparently of distant origin. Beginning at 5:25 o'clock Friday morning three waves per hour have been indicated, showing an oscillation from the normal tides of between three and four inches.

Valparaiso, Chile, Aug. 20.—At 7:52 o'clock last Thursday evening Valparaiso experienced an earthquake of great severity and during that night 21 shocks were felt.

Most of the buildings of the city are either burned or damaged. The loss will be enormous, probably reaching \$100,000,000.

Two thousand persons killed is considered to be a fair estimate of the casualties.

Viña Del Mar (three miles from Valparaiso and having a population of over 10,000); Quirihue (135 miles to the southwest, with a population of 2,500); Ballo; Limaone (15 miles to the southwest with a population of 2,000); Quillota (55 miles to the southwest with a population of 10,000) and villages all around were destroyed.

Most of the damage was due to fire, which started immediately after the first shock. The whole population is sleeping in the hills, the ports are closed.

Food is very scarce. Milk costs two Chilean dollars a liter, and it is almost impossible to obtain

meat, even at high prices. The railroads are all destroyed. Rain, which began to fall immediately after the first shock, stopped an hour afterwards. The nights are very cold and windy; the people sleeping in the open are suffering greatly. The captain of a steamship which has arrived from San Francisco says the situation here is worse than that following the disaster at San Francisco.

Washington, Aug. 20.—Official advice reached the state department Sunday regarding the Valparaiso earthquake, but they gave information similar to that already contained in press dispatches under Sunday's date. United States Minister Hicks, at Santiago, cabled that 500 deaths were reported at Valparaiso and immense destruction had been caused by fire and that many towns have been wiped out. He added that there is universal mourning. He said it was reported that at Santiago there were 20 deaths and much destruction of property. The state department also announced that Minister Hicks, under date of the 18th reports that on the 16th there was a frightful earthquake with loss of life, many buildings being destroyed, and that shocks continued until the date of his telegram; that the location was safe; that the houses in the towns were deserted and that thousands of people had slept two nights in the plazas and parks.

Santiago de Chill, Aug. 20.—It is known that eight lives were lost in this city by the earthquake, but it is believed that many persons were killed by the falling buildings and that their bodies will be discovered later. Several persons became so panic stricken during the tremblings of the earth that they threw themselves from the balconies of their homes and were killed. The fires which followed the earthquake in this city were promptly extinguished, but while they lasted they added greatly to the terror of the people.

Valparaiso, via Galveston, Aug. 20.—Proportionately the catastrophe here is considered greater than that which befell San Francisco. Valparaiso and neighboring towns are wrecked and partially burned and in all towns of the Aconcagua valley conditions are similar. In the southern portion of Chile, severe shocks were felt at Talcapuano, Concepcion, Talca and Zane, where the disaster was not appalling. As yet no authentic news has been received from Santiago although a courier is shortly expected.

HANDLE PURE GOODS ONLY

Grocery Jobbers of Kansas Stand by Board of Health.

Only Manufactured Products That Stand Chemical Analysis Will Be Offered to Their Customers.

Topeka, Aug. 17.—All the grocery jobbers of Kansas met Dr. J. S. Crumline, secretary of the state board of health, Thursday morning and had a long conference regarding the new pure food rules of the board. As a result of the conference the grocery jobbers agreed to stand by the rules of the board and not handle any stock which the chemists of the board had found to contain preservatives or adulterants of any kind unless the stock was properly labeled. The conference was one of the most important relating to pure food that has been held in the state. The grocers asked Dr. Crumline to explain the pure food rules and after this the jobbers as a body and personally agreed that as soon as new contracts could be drawn they would buy no more goods of manufacturers who would not agree to stand by every rule of the board. If preservatives were necessary in any foodstuff, the grocers will demand that the manufacturers label the goods to show the kind and quantity of preservatives and adulterants.

GOVERNOR ADDRESSED MOB.

While the South Carolina Executive Was Trying to Prevent Lynching Negro Was Shot.

Columbia, S. C., Aug. 17.—Bob Davis, the negro who assaulted Miss Jennie Brooks near Greenwood Monday, was captured late Thursday afternoon near Ninety-Six. The negro was positively identified by Miss Brooks. He was led to within a hundred yards of the Brooks' home and lynched, a negro woman firing the first shot.

Gov. Hayward reached the scene shortly after the negro had been captured. A platform was erected in a fence corner on the premises of the victim's father and from it Gov. Hayward addressed the mob. The governor was cheered, but the mob removed the prisoner from the view of the governor and ridged him with bullets.

St. Louis, Aug. 20.—While swimming an impromptu race in the Missouri Athletic Club's tank Saturday night J. Jefferson Donnelly, a club member, was drowned. Donnelly was uniform salesman for a large clothing concern, and had a wide acquaintance among national guards throughout the country.



THE CZAR: "So-Boos; So-o Boos! Since That Feller Has Been Shaking That Flag at 'em, I Can't Do Anything with 'em!"

A PORTRAIT IN OILS BY AN OLD ARTIST.



Minneapolis Journal.

A Grand Jury Report from Chicago Says That John D. Rockefeller Has Done Uncle Sam in Oils.

IT WAS NOT SO BAD

Early Reports Regarding the Chilean Earthquake Were Largely Exaggerated

ORGANIZING FOR RELIEF.

Situation at Santiago Is Not Serious—No Estimate of Deaths at Valparaiso—Driving in the Herds.

Washington, Aug. 21.—The earthquakes in Chile have ceased, the resultant fires have been extinguished and people of the two cities, Valparaiso and Santiago, are taking organized steps to relieve suffering, care for the wounded and bury the dead. Dispatches received from Chile Monday tend to show that the first estimates of casualties and material damage had been greatly exaggerated and that the people of Valparaiso are becoming calmer. The fear of further shocks has been removed by a statement issued from the observatory and Monday it became possible for the first time to organize relief work and begin a systematic search of the ruins for the dead.

Santiago is coming to the rescue of her suffering sister. Public subscriptions have been opened for money, clothing and provisions and the capital is caring for all refugees from Valparaiso who make their way across the mountains.

The government is putting down pillage wherever it breaks out with troops. It is still impossible to reach any correct estimate of the dead and injured. The reports from Chile are most conflicting.

A large section of the country, however, was visited by the catastrophe and cabled estimates of casualties refer in some instances to particular localities, notably Valparaiso, and in others evidently to the entire district which suffered from the shock. The number of dead in Valparaiso doubtless will run into the hundreds and for the entire country probably into the thousands. The property damage is estimated at from \$200,000,000 to \$500,000,000. Relief is being organized with system and the government has taken complete control of the situation.

The remoter districts have not yet been heard from and efforts are being made to establish communication either by wire or courier with the provinces.

The statement is made that every building in Valparaiso has been damaged and the city has been described as "unhabitable."

The Alameda quarter and the principal streets are mere heaps of ruins. The people still through the surrounding hills and the seashore and many are leaving the locality as best they may.

At several points the coast has lifted above its former level. The troops are maintaining perfect order and the military ambulances are carrying the wounded to the hospitals. Hospital and medical supplies are being sent down to Valparaiso from Santiago. A commercial crisis is feared and very little business is being done.

Santiago, Chile, Aug. 21.—The situation is "becoming" clearer. A relief committee was organized here Sunday and the street railroad service was resumed. It was feared that Santiago would be plunged in darkness owing to lack of coal to supply the gas works but the officials of the gas company say that they have a sufficient supply to last a week.

Carlos Edwards, one of the proprietors of the Mercurio, of Valparaiso, has arrived here on horseback from that city. He confirms the reports that Alameda quarter and the principal avenue of Valparaiso have been transformed into heaps of ruins. When he left the city the city inhabitants were wandering about looking for relatives and friends. The majority of the inhabitants he says, have sought refuge on the hills, in the parks and along the seashore. The administration building and the Victoria theater had disappeared even to their foundations. The marina arsenal was only slightly damaged but not any of the private residences were habitable. In spite of the decision perfect order was maintained by the troops which were bivouacked on the grand avenue and Victoria square. The military ambulances were gathering up the wounded and the dead. When Mr. Edwards left Valparaiso it was impossible to determine the number of persons killed but according to his estimate the number of lives lost was small when the extent of the catastrophe was taken into consideration. At one depot he saw 50 bodies. The main hotel was standing and all the guests escaped injury but Mr. Edwards regards Valparaiso as being uninhabitable for the present. The squadron of cavalry forming the presidential escort has started from here for Valparaiso with instructions to regulate all the cattle met with between this place and Valparaiso and to drive the herds to the latter city in order to prevent a famine.

Colorado Springs, Col., Aug. 17.—With the declaration that the fight for the eight-hour law is practically won, the 33d annual convention of the International Typographical Union Friday voted to reduce the strike assessment from 10 per cent to 5 per cent of the wages of employed printers. At this time 28,500 members are working eight hours, 3,525 are under a nine-hour contract and 4,378 are on strike.

KANSAS LEADS ALL.

With a Crop of 91,385,676 Bushels of Wheat, No Other State in the Union Is in the Race.

IT SURPRISED MR. COBURN.

Yield Is Nearly Twice That of Its Closest Competitors in Winter Wheat Growing-Corn Also Promises Well.

Topeka, Aug. 16.—F. D. Coburn, secretary of the Kansas state board of agriculture, estimates the Kansas wheat crop for 1906 at 91,385,676 bushels. The report issued by Mr. Coburn Tuesday is based on the conditions as found by the board's correspondents August 8. This is the first estimate of the yield of wheat for 1906, the report issued June 8 being the acreage and per cent of condition. The report follows:

This year's yield of winter wheat, as stated at this time by the men who have grown it, and who are now threshing and marketing it, is 91,385,676 bushels, a very large proportion of which is of more than the usual high quality. The average on the entire area sown is given as 14.7 bushels, but the government report issued August 10 estimated the average yield per acre at 15.3 bushels. The year's crop, as reported at this time, is 20 per cent larger than that of last year, 41 per cent more than the 1904 yield, and is the state's second greatest.

Mr. Coburn is himself surprised at the enormous yield of Kansas wheat this year. Two months ago he underestimated the crop by nearly 20 million bushels.

"It will certainly be extremely gratifying to every Kansan to see the official figures showing that this state again leads all others by far in the production of winter wheat; it is a fact that its crop is well toward twice as much as that of its closest competitors, which this year are Nebraska and Indiana, and more than twice as much as was produced in such conceded leading agricultural states as Illinois and Ohio," said Mr. Coburn.

"The government rates Missouri, Oklahoma, California and Michigan in the crack winter wheat producers of the world, but Kansas has more than these four combined. I doubt if our people realize that no other state in the world, whether it raises winter wheat or spring wheat, seems able to equal the enormous outputs of Kansas year after year.

"A remarkable fact in connection with the present situation is that no observer of conditions sixty days ago would have had the hardihood to predict a yield within 10 million bushels of what the growers now report, and the man who said 25 million bushels less would have been accepted as a very safe and sane guesser. The large yield and the high quality are equally a surprise, when the earlier outlook is considered.

"The corn, too, in most parts of the state, is growing by leaps and bounds, and astonishing the many who only a few weeks since could at best see only a moderate prospect. To be sure, the best prospect is outside those parts of the state looked to for large acreage and a sure yield of great bulk, but anything like favorable conditions for the next thirty days would seem to make certain a mighty aggregate of the cereal that really makes the state rich."

STENSLAND IN PITTSBURG.

The Defaulting President of the Chicago Bank Recognized on a Train in That City.

Pittsburg, Aug. 16.—Paul O. Stensland, the defaulting president of the Milwaukee Avenue State bank of Chicago, was in Pittsburg Wednesday and at present is thought to be in the east. Stensland was seen aboard a Pennsylvania railroad train at the Union station by Oscar Holmer, a mechanical engineer, who used to be a close friend of Stensland, but had not seen him for two years. Holmer had gone to the station to meet a friend who was on his way east and while talking in the Pullman car his attention was unexpectedly attracted to a man seated near. In telling of the incident Holmer said:

"I walked up to him and said, 'Hello, Stensland, what are you doing here?' "For God's sake," he said, "is it you? Don't give me away." "I told him he and his affairs were none of my business," and then he started to talk. He said he supposed I knew all about his trouble and declared he was almost out of his mind with worry. He told me that he was going east and said he had plenty of money."

Charged with Killing Brother.

Ardmore, I. T., Aug. 16.—United States officials have placed Cal Stewart under arrest at Marietta, charged with the killing of his brother, Ben. The tragedy took place Tuesday afternoon while the two were returning home. It is alleged that the men quarreled. That Stewart shot his brother through the head. The defendant is a prominent stockman and stands high. His arrest has caused a sensation. Recently the two were arrested on the charge of killing Dr. Graham, the physician of Holmer, and were released on bond of \$15,000. Stewart is in the federal jail here.

PREST. RIPLEY'S ANSWER.

ANOTHER OPEN LETTER TO THE PEOPLE OF KANSAS.

Railroad Taxation, Passes, State Politics and Capital Stock Values Are Discussed.

TO THE PEOPLE OF KANSAS:

Since the publication of my first letter I have received a very large number of communications, of which about one-half are in approval, one-quarter in criticism and the rest asking for information.

Finding it out of the question to answer each letter, I have decided to answer all at once so far as is practicable.

Those who take issue with the first letter mainly dwell on these points:

- 1. Alleged over-capitalization.
2. The taxation of railway property.
3. The issue of free passes.
4. The alleged interference of the railroad in politics.

As to the first: I stated that the Santa Fe was worth all it is capitalized for. I am asked if the stockholders who bought the stock ten years ago at, say, \$12.00 a share, have not made money. Of course they have, but has that anything to do with the case? They had courage enough to buy an interest in a discredited concern, just emerging from bankruptcy—only a few had the courage to do it. The great bulk of our common stock was held by those who owned it when the bankruptcy occurred; who held it throughout the receivership and who paid an assessment of \$10.00 per share in cash in order to keep it. How about those people, most of whom paid par or more for the stock in the '80's, and who not only got no returns between 1889 and 1899, but paid an assessment besides?

Among the letters received is one from which I quote as follows:

"On March 11, 1889, I bought Santa Fe stock, paying \$55 for each share. On July 11, 1895, I paid on each share of stock a cash assessment of \$10. Fifty-five dollars, with interest at six per cent compounded annually for seventeen years amounts to \$147.95, and ten dollars compounded at the same rate for eleven years amounts to \$18.90. And there has been no time in the last seventeen years that I could not compound at that rate semi-annually instead of annually. My stock should today represent to me \$166.85 per share. I have received on each share dividends to the amount of \$31.50. Deducing this from the above amount would leave each share standing me at \$145.35. The stock is selling at 93, and I am a loser of \$52.35 on each share. And yet, according to the [Topeka] Capital, because stock sold at 13 eight years ago I am not a loser at all, but am a gainer by 300 per cent. No doubt but that most of the stockholders stand about in the same position I do."

The above letter is from a citizen of Kansas whom I do not know and never heard of before, but he was fortunate in only having paid \$55 per share—many of the present stockholders are paid \$120.

I repeat that, whether we consider what the property has cost (including in the cost the interest on investment), or whether we consider its reproduction value, it is not over-capitalized.

Second, taxation: The Santa Fe desires to pay its fair share of the taxes levied for the support of the state; it will not be heard to murmur so long as its property is assessed at the same proportion of its real value as is the property of other citizens; there is no reason why it should be favored in this respect on the one hand or oppressed on the other. (I may say that, in my opinion, a strict and honest application of this principle would considerably reduce the taxes we now pay.)

Third, as to passes: It is almost universal custom in every part of the country to transport free of charge national, state and county officers; it was originally meant as a courtesy, and I have never felt that it gave the railroad an unfair claim on the conscience of the official receiving it, nor have I known of any case where a legislator has voted or been expected to vote against his convictions because of holding a pass. If the people of Kansas desire that this courtesy shall cease to be extended to their officers, there will be no objection raised by this company. But the prohibition of passes to other than railway employees will not materially increase the passenger receipts.

Fourth, the railroad in politics: We have the same interest in good government as has any other citizen and the same right to display that interest. As the largest corporation in the state and the largest tax payer we have a vital interest in sane and conservative legislation—and when (as has too often been the case) there is danger that the state will be swept off its feet by passion and prejudice made by designing demagogues for their own personal ends, it becomes a duty to oppose those men, by fair and legal means—in such cases, and in such cases only, will the Santa Fe be found in politics. Individual employees are unrestricted; they may hold and express such views as they think proper, but their action is not to be taken as that of the company, nor is the latter responsible for their political opinions or utterances.

I realize fully that such prosperity as the Santa Fe has enjoyed is due largely to the energy and thrift of the Kansas people, but they should also recognize that we have done our share. Each is necessary to the welfare of the other; and if, in the last decade, there has been any good work done in the state, or for the state, in which the Santa Fe has failed to do its part, and more than its part, I am much mistaken.

(Signed) E. P. RIPLEY, President A. T. & S. F. Ry. Co. Chicago, Aug. 21, 1904.