

MISS ETHEL'S DEBUT.

All Parts of the Country Represented at White House Ball.

Miss Ethel Roosevelt, daughter of the President, was formally presented to society Monday night at a small dance given in the historic east room of the White House.

This auspicious event, which has been so eagerly anticipated by society, was attended by 600 debutantes and beaux of the season, guests being present from every section of the country.

At 10 o'clock Miss Roosevelt took her place in the blue room beside her mother and received her guests. She looked very girlish and handsome, gowned in soft white satin trimmed with crystals.

A notable feature of the evening was the number of Harvard and other college students present. Besides the college boys, unmarried attaches of foreign legations and army officers in their gay uniforms made up the bulk of the male contingent.

Among the onlookers were Mrs. William Sheffield Cowles, Mrs. Douglas Robinson, sisters of the President; Representative and Mrs. Nicholas Longworth, Mrs. J. Ellen Roosevelt, the entire Kean family, Mrs. Nat Sims, Mrs. Robert Bacon, Mrs. Charles A. Munn, Mrs. Richard Wayne, Mrs. and Mrs. Herbert Wadsworth.

President Roosevelt viewed the dancing for some time and then returned to his work. Miss Ethel's two brothers, Theodore and Kermit Roosevelt, were among the dancers.

TRADE OF WORLD FALLS OFF. United States Not Alone With Decreased Exports and Imports.

The United States is not alone in the record of smaller imports and smaller exports that will characterize the history of our foreign commerce in the year 1908.

It will thus be seen that the falling off of approximately \$300,000,000 in imports and perhaps \$150,000,000 in exports in the commerce of the United States during 1908 is part of a general condition which prevailed the world over.

WINCHGRAFT AFFECTS WILL. Children Testify Aged Father Was Influenced by Strange Belief.

The will of Jacob Schonacker was set aside by a jury in Common Pleas Court in Norwalk, Ohio, for the reason that the testator was insane at the time the instrument was drawn, in his eighty-third year.

PASTOR ENDS LIFE WITH RAZOR. Searching Party Finds Minister Dead in Apartments.

Pulling to arrive at church where his congregation had assembled for worship, a searching party was formed to search for Rev. Robert C. Dougherty, pastor of the Congregational church at Buchanan, N. D.

WOMAN FUR COAT; KILLED AS BEAR. Mistaking a drunken man, clad in a long buffalo overcoat, for a bear, Thomas Deckmar, a farmer, shot and killed Thomas Andrews near Lafayette, Tenn.

CURRENT NEWS NOTES. Cardinal Victor Lucian Sulpiac Lecot, archbishop of Bordeaux, died at Chambery, France.

DATE CULTURE IN THE IMPERIAL VALLEY, California, is declared to be a success by J. W. Jennings, an experimenter.

JUSTICES OF THE COURT OF SPECIAL SESSIONS IN NEW YORK sat almost all night in efforts to catch up on cases.

BRIDGE THREE MILES IN LENGTH will be built by the Pennsylvania road over Hell Gate, from Port Morris, a suburb of New York, to Long Island.

THE REV. JOHN P. McCLOSKEY, assistant pastor of the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Toledo, in the pulpit announced that his days were numbered, according to doctors, but he would labor to the last.

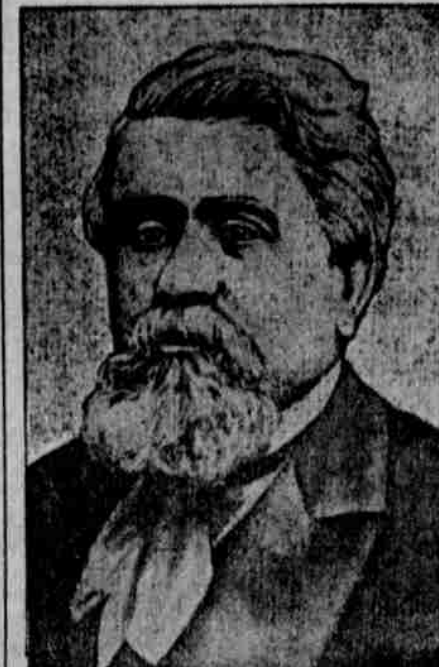
PRESIDENT OF FRANCE ATTACKED IN STREET

Man Throws Arms About Fallieres' Neck and Tries to Pull His Beard.

ROYALIST PLOT IS SCENTED. Insult Generally Believed to Be Act of Vainglorious Seeker After Notoriety.

While Armand Fallieres, the President of France, accompanied by M. Ramondou, his secretary, and Colonel Lasser, military attache at the Elysee palace, was taking a morning stroll near the Rue de l'Etoile in Paris, a poorly clad individual, who evidently had been lying in wait, suddenly jumped upon the President from behind and threw his arms about M. Fallieres' neck in an effort to seize his beard.

As the detectives slipped the handcuffs on the man he cried: "I am unarmed. I simply wanted to pull the President's beard." At the station



PRESIDENT FALLIERES.

house the President's assailant proved to be Jean Mattis, a cafe waiter, 24 years old and a native of the department of Savoie.

The investigation reveals the fact that Mattis was in close relation with the Royalist organization, and this gives color to rumors that he was the instrument of a Royalist plot.

ODDS & ENDS OF SPORT.

No football game will be played between Iowa and Minnesota next fall and negotiations have been practically ended.

ALFREDO DE ORO OF Cuba is the three-cushion billiard champion of the world, having won the third block of the match with Thomas A. Hueston of St. Louis by the score of 50 to 38.

Now that Demarest and some of the other stars are out of amateur billiards, owing to the showing up in Chicago, it should be possible to arrange an unusually interesting amateur tourney for the lesser players who have a chance now they did not have before.

NEGOTIATIONS are on to take the Cornell, Yale and Harvard rowing crews to Seattle during the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific exposition next summer.

THE STATE board of control of high school athletics will not decide on the place for the annual meet of the Iowa high schools, but the different institutions will be given an opportunity to choose the location of the big yearly event.

HARRY FULLIAM was unanimously elected president of the National Baseball League at the annual meeting of the association. John Heider was re-elected to the secretaryship.

FREEPORT wants to stay in the Wisconsin-Illinois League. A committee is now busy in the Illinois city raising the difference between \$1,800 already subscribed and the total \$2,500 deficit.

THE CROWDS attending football games are increasing every year. An attendance of 30,000 or more at big games is not uncommon this year.

INVITES TWO NATIONS. President Roosevelt Asks Canada and Mexico to Aid in Conservation.

Announcement has been made at the White House in Washington of a proposed plan for a conference looking toward the conservation of the natural resources of North America, to be held at the White House Feb. 18 next.

Letters suggesting the plan have been addressed by President Roosevelt to the Governor General and to the Premier of Canada and to President Diaz of Mexico.

THE PROPOSED North American conference is the outgrowth of the two conservation conferences held in Washington, 1. In which the governors of the States and Territories were the principal conferees.

One hundred and fifty thousand persons of a population of 1,750,000 in the Italian departments of Calabria and Sicily devastated by the earthquake—

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WORLD'S GREATEST DISASTER

FIRST AID TO THE STRICKEN.

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Chicago Tribune.

violence of the shock seems to have been unprecedented except by volcanic eruptions within a limited area.

Chaotic Rocks Replace City. Warships ordered to relieve the survivors were unable to approach the coast, owing to the changed configuration of the straits of Messina.

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TOWNS WRECKED BY THE QUAKE

The towns in Sicily and southern Italy reported wrecked by the earthquake are as follows:

Messina, Sicily—Population, 150,000; wrecked by earthquake and swept by tidal wave; loss of life enormous.

Castoreo—Population, 7,000; twelve miles southwest of Milazzo; badly wrecked.

Reggio, Calabria—Population, 4,500; across the Strait of Messina from the city of Messina; reported completely destroyed.

Scilla, Calabria—Reported destroyed.

Bagnara—Sixteen miles northeast of Reggio; population, 7,000; reported wiped out.

Other towns and villages on both sides of the strait of Messina have been leveled to the ground and nothing

of the strait of Messina, ultimately a torpedo boat ran close to the coast, but was unable to discover a trace of the city.

The city had vanished as completely as Aladdin's palace under the magician's spell.

Observations indicate that the earth's collapsing beneath it and the yawning site was filled by the sea which advanced in a huge wave there, as at Messina.

Only five of the city's 50,000 inhabitants have been accounted for.

These unhappy wrecks reached Cattanzaro and Palmi half-dead by fright.

One of these was an army officer who telegraphed to Rome that the city had been entirely destroyed and that the dead were numberless.

The ministry of marine at Rome received wireless reports of the obstruction of the strait of Messina, showing its safe navigation to be impossible until it is recharted.

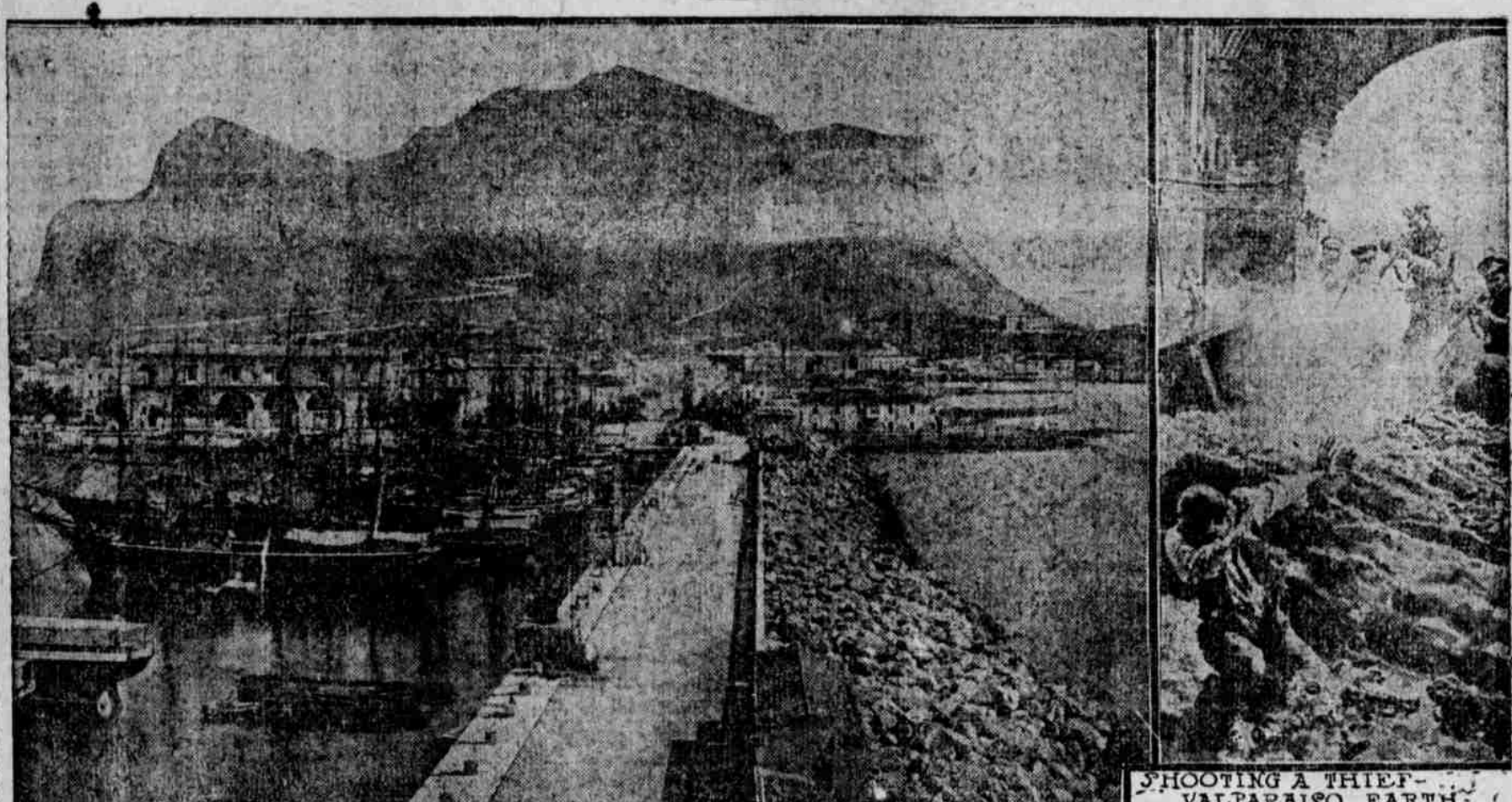
Its future navigation is likely to be extremely difficult.

The tidal wave wrecked the lighthouses in the strait, including Faro beacon, and they crashed into the sea.

The news caused a deep impression in Rome, for its consequences from commercial and military points of view will be incalculable.

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TYPICAL ITALIAN CITY AND MAP OF EARTHQUAKE REGION WHERE THOUSANDS MET AWFUL DEATH.



PALERMO—ON THE NORTH COAST OF SICILY—A TYPICAL COAST TOWN.

property could not be as great as at San Francisco, for Messina and Reggio, the two principal cities destroyed, were not rich or magnificent from the metropolitan point of view.

Face of Country Is Altered. As a great cataclysm of nature, however, this disaster is on a far vaster scale than the California phenomenon.

The whole face of the country and the coast line have been altered. Even Scylla and Charybdis have changed the positions they have occupied since Aeneas' legendary voyage.

The three provinces where the greatest damage was done were Messina and Catania, in Sicily, and Reggio di Calabria, on the mainland.

They comprise about 4,400 square miles. The rock of Charybdis now blocks the entrance to the strait of Messina.

Several hundred persons perished and much damage was done outside of these provinces, but within them the devastation was so complete that scarcely a human habitation remains.

Uphaval Lasts 32 Seconds. All accounts agree that the time occupied by nature's gigantic spasms was but thirty-two seconds.

Some minutes later a great wave completed the havoc in the ill-fated coast towns. The

MAP OF SICILY AND LOWER ITALY, SHOWING LOCATIONS OF TOWNS WHICH SUFFERED GREATEST DAMAGE.

SHOOTING A THIEF—VALPARAISO EARTHQUAKE IN 1906 THE SAME MEASURES ARE BEING USED BY ITALIAN MILITARY.

but ruins are left to indicate where they formerly stood.

Messina Warned Often. Messina experienced a similar disaster in 1783.

She had then the same preliminary warnings during the previous four or five years that she had recently in 1905 and 1907.

Both Messina and Reggio are on the seismic line of contact or boundary between the primary and secondary formations which separate Mount Etna and Mount Vesuvius.

It is a veritable storm center for this last lesson in the light of modern scientific knowledge.

Messina probably will not rise again from her ruins and ashes.

This last overwhelming calamity will alter the future history of Sicily and southern Italy.

It will be regarded as certain that a considerable portion of the population of this fair land will bow before the wrath of the gods and seek homes elsewhere.

Next to Italy itself, America will feel the effect of this calamity more than any other country, for a large proportion of the stricken population will seek refuge there as soon as the means of flight can be secured.

MANY HURT IN THEATER PANIC.

Fire on Stage at Altoona, Pa., Routs Spectators in Hurry.

Following the close of an act at the Keith Theater in Altoona, Pa., where a moving picture show was being presented, fire started on the stage.

There was a mad rush for the exits by the panic-stricken spectators and many received painful bruises.

While the firemen were responding to an alarm the flames spread rapidly, consuming the stage and much of the interior.

BURGLAR GETS \$20,000.

Bank Theft Due to Faulty Repair Work.

But for the reversing of a spring in the vault time lock a burglar could not have carried away \$20,000 from the First National Bank of Monrovia, Cal.

Four days before the robbery an expert locksmith from Los Angeles overhauled the lock.

He did his work faultily and left the lock outwardly in good shape, but actually useless.

Commits Suicide in a Tub.

Dependent from a long illness, caused by a cancer of the throat, David Hart, 50, a Civil War veteran, committed suicide by drowning himself in a bathtub in the hospital at the Soldiers' Home in Dayton, Ohio.

At Frankfort, Ky., Justice Lassing, in the Court of Appeals, rendered a decision giving horsemen a sweeping victory, holding that betting or wagering on a horse race is not gaming and cannot be construed as a felony.

Extra Fare Law Held Valid. The Ohio Supreme Court has upheld the validity of the law enacted by the Legislature last winter, giving railroad companies authority to charge an extra 10 cents for tickets purchased on trains.

The question came up in a case from Logan county, brought by Marion Miller against the Toledo and Ohio Central.

Shaves Man Kills Self with Razor.

Taking the razor with which he had just finished shaving a man in the Port Jervis, N. Y., barber shop where he was employed, Paul Graff, 31 years old, cut his own throat, dying instantly.

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Beaten, Robbed, Cremated.

J. A. Gollahan, 75 years old, of Broadford, Va., was beaten, robbed and incarcerated in his own house, which was set afire by tramps, who are thought to have known that the old man had money around the premises.

Entombed Miners Found Dead. Entombed in the Pennsylvania colliery at Mount Carmel, Pa., by an avalanche of coal, the bodies of Frank Logan and Stanislaus Mortvage were found in a manway by a rescuing party.

Black Hand Wrecks House. Because he refused to pay \$1,000 demanded by the Black Hand is believed to have attempted to kill Joseph Caocelli and his family in Cleveland.

Disbarred Attorney Loses Office. Judge Jones of the Circuit Court in Sioux Falls, S. D., has decided that George W. Egan, who was elected State Attorney after his disbarment by the Supreme Court, is not eligible to hold the office.