

# CHIEF SAYS HOUSE MISUNDERSTOOD

Message to Lower Branch on Secret Service.

BIG STICK FALLS ON FOUR

Champions of Provision to Limit Scope of Investigators Are Raked Over the Coals by Roosevelt—Federal Sleuths Defended by Executive.

Washington.—President Roosevelt's big stick crashed down upon the heads of Representatives Tawney of Minnesota, Smith of Iowa, Sherley of Kentucky, and Fitzgerald of New York, when the executive sent a special message to the house of representatives, berating those solons for being champions of the successful move to place limitations upon the scope of the secret service.

The president also declared that the interpretation of the house of the secret service clause in his last message was misunderstood and that there had been any evidence which would point to the necessity of an investigation of members, such evidence would long ago have been turned over to the proper authorities.

The message was in answer to the resolution transmitted from the house in which the representatives asked for evidence upon which Mr. Roosevelt based his statements that the "chief argument in favor of the provision was that the congressmen did not themselves wish to be investigated by secret service men."

For the Ananias Club.

"I am wholly at a loss to understand the concluding portion of the resolution. I have made no charges of corruption against congress nor against any member of the present house. If I had proof of such corruption affecting any member of the house in any matter as to which the federal government has jurisdiction, action would at once be brought, as was done in the cases of Senators Mitchell and Burton, and Representatives Williamson, Herrman and Driggs, at different times since I have been president. This would simply be doing my duty in the execution and enforcement of the laws without respect to persons. But I do not regard it as within the province or the duties of the president to report to the house 'alleged delinquencies' of members, or the supposed 'corrupt action' of a member 'in his official capacity.' The membership of the house is by the constitution placed with the power of the house alone. In the prosecution of criminals and the enforcement of the laws the president must resort to the courts of the United States.

"In the third and fourth clauses of the preamble it is stated that the majority of the congressmen are in fear of being investigated by secret service men" and that "congress as a whole was actuated by that motive in enacting the provision in question," and that this is an impeachment of the honor and integrity of the congress. These statements are not, I think, in accordance with the facts.

Misunderstood, He Says.

"This allegation in the resolution, therefore, must certainly be due to an entire failure to understand my message. The resolution continues: 'That the president be requested to transmit to the house any evidence upon which he based his statements that the "chief argument in favor of the provision was that the congressmen did not themselves wish to be investigated by secret service men.'" This statement, which was an attack upon me, still less upon the congress, is sustained by the facts.

"If you will turn to the Congressional Record for May 1 last, pages 553 to 559, inclusive, you will find the debate on this subject. Mr. Tawney of Minnesota, Mr. Smith of Iowa, Mr. Sherley of Kentucky, and Mr. Fitzgerald of New York appear in this debate as the special champions of the provision referred to. Messrs. Parsons, Bennett and Driscoll were the leaders of those who opposed the adoption of the amendment and upheld the right of the government to use the most efficient means possible in order to detect criminals and to prevent and punish crime. The amendment was carried in the committee of the whole, where no votes of the individual members are recorded, so I am unable to discriminate by mentioning the members who voted for and the members who voted against the provision, but its passage, the journal records, was greeted with applause. I am well aware, however, that in any case of this kind many members who have no particular knowledge of the point at issue are content simply to follow the lead of the committee which had considered the matter, and I have no doubt that many members of the house simply followed the lead of Messrs. Tawney and Smith."

Secret Service Is Defended.

After soundly remonstrating with Representatives Tawney, Smith, Sherley and Fitzgerald for their stand at the last session in favor of placing limitations upon the duties of secret service operatives, the president set about to defend the operations of that branch of the federal government and declared that the scope of the department should be extremely wide in order that all criminals might be brought to justice and that there might be no unjust discriminations. He also pointed out numerous instances where the power of the department had brought justice upon the heads of criminals and cited cases within the memory of the present administration. Mr. Roosevelt also declared that none of the members of the house had ever been investigated as set forth in various allegations, the gist of which was appended to the message.

Asks Reversal of Action.

Concluding, the president said: "In conclusion, I most earnestly ask, in the name of good government and decent administration, in the name of honesty and for the purpose of bringing to justice violators of the federal laws wherever they may be found, whether in public or private life, that the action taken by the house last year be reversed. When this action was taken, the senate committee, under the lead of the late Senator Allison, having before it a strongly-worded protest from Secretary Cortelyou like that he had sent to Mr. Tawney, accepted the secretary's views; and the senate passed the bill in the shape presented by Senator Allison. In the conference, however, the house conferees insisted on the retention of the provision they had inserted, and the senate yielded.

"The chief of the secret service is paid a salary utterly inadequate to the importance of his functions and to the admirable way in which he has performed them. I earnestly urge that it may be increased to \$5,000 per annum. I also urge that the secret service be placed where it properly belongs, and made a bureau in the department of justice, as the chief of the secret service has repeatedly requested; but whether this is done or not, it should be explicitly provided that the secret service can be used to detect and punish crime wherever it is found.

THEODORE ROOSEVELT.

# HUNDRED THOUSAND DIE IN AWFUL EARTHQUAKE

Seismic Shocks, Tidal Waves and Fires Devastate Messina, Reggio and Scores of Other Cities and Towns of Calabria.

Horrible Scenes in the Stricken District, Described by Eye-Witnesses--All Nations Offer Sympathy and Aid--King and Queen Go to Sicily--American Consul Arthur S. Cheney and His Wife Are Reported to Be Among the Victims of the Terrible Disaster.

## ROOSEVELT'S MESSAGE.

"His Majesty Vittorio Emmanuel, Rome: "With all my countrymen I am appalled by the dreadful calamity which has befallen your country. I offer my sincerest sympathy. American National Red Cross has issued appeals for contributions for the sufferers and notified me that they will immediately communicate with the Italian Red Cross. "Theodore Roosevelt."

Rome.—Stunned at the magnitude of the calamity which has overtaken its fellow countrymen, all Italy mourns for the stricken province of Calabria and the island of Sicily. Accustomed for centuries to earthquakes, Italy stands ever in dread, but none was prepared for the disaster which in the fraction of a minute Monday devastated cities and towns and caused the death of thousands. Late estimates put the number of dead at 100,000.

Messina, whose tragic history has been marked by tidal waves and war, and which was the center of Monday'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 earth's trembling, for mariners report the channel altered beyond recognition. The ports and villages on both the continental and Sicilian sides were wrecked or inundated and all lighthouses along the coasts were swallowed up. Navigation now is dangerous and in some places impossible.

## Seaport of Reggio Wiped Out.

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 describing his experience he said: "The sea was strangely, 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."

## Terrible Scenes at Messina.

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, 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."

## Brave Work of Rescuers.

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. It is imperative that the dead be removed from the ruins in order to avoid a pestilence. 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 snatch special editions from the newsboys. The people are plunged in grief and lamentations are heard on all sides. Here and there one asks another: "When will end this awful repetition of devastation and death in our country?"

## All Nations Offer 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 spon-

aneous promises of that aid which brings the world closer together in times of great calamity. Great Britain, France and Russia have sent their warships quick as a 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.

## Described by Naval Officer.

At the time of the earthquake the torpedo boat Sappho was lying in the harbor of Messina and one of the officers told of the occurrences, as follows:

"At half-past five 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 strait, mounting the coasts and carrying everything before it. Scores of ships were damaged and the Hungarian mail boat Andrassy parted her anchors and went crashing into other vessels. Messina bay was wiped out and the sea was soon covered with masses of wreckage, which was car-

palling calamity and ordering the saying of prayers. He asks also what money is required, as he desires to contribute funds to cope with the situation.

Premier Giolitti has appointed a national committee to organize succor for the unfortunates. The president of the organization is the duke of Aosta. The king has made a generous contribution to the relief fund. Minister of Public Works Bertolini and Minister of Justice Orlando have left Rome for Sicily. Sig. Orlando is a Sicilian.

## Lasted Only Twenty-Three Seconds.

A report of technical observations from the observatory at Messina says the earthquake lasted for 23 seconds only. It was accompanied by remarkable atmospheric phenomena. The surcharged air was filled with sparks and flashes of flame which flared up until the heavens seemed aflame. The crest of the earth appeared suddenly to drop. These phenomena were followed by distinct lateral oscillations that threw the panic-stricken people off their feet as they rushed to the streets.

## Straits of Messina All Changed.

Reports indicate that the geography of the Straits of Messina has been so changed as to cause apprehension of serious commercial and strategic diffi-

## EARTHQUAKE SCENE IN ITALY.



Calabrian Family Among Ruins of Their Home, Earthquake of Oct., 1907.

ried off in the arms of the receding waters."

## King and Queen Go to Sicily.

King Victor Emmanuel and the queen, who left for the scene of the calamity, reached Naples last night and proceeded at once to Sicily. A large number of people saw their majesties depart from Rome and one among the number of deputies at the station observed to the king: "The presence of your majesty will suffice to console the stricken population."

The king turned sharply upon the speaker and said abruptly: "Don't talk nonsense."

## Horrible Scenes in the Ruins.

The work of rescue at Messina, according to the meager details received here, presented harrowing scenes. Hundreds of people were pinned under 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, clinging around the corpse of their mother. In some cases heroic rescuers met death in the falling debris. In one house 20 persons suspended on the fifth floor and unable to reach the street because the lower floors had been torn away, were rescued with a rope by a sailor. Six criminals were killed while attempting to loot the Bank of Sicily, where cash amounting to half a million dollars lay in plain view.

## Officials Give Succor.

The pope has telegraphed the archbishops of Palermo and Catania and the bishops of Mileto and Catanzaro expressing his sorrow over the ap-

STRAIGHT FROM THE SHOULDER.



First Cross Old Gentleman—Do you know how far you are removed from a monkey, sir?  
Second Cross Old Gentleman—Yes; the width of this table.

# THE BARONESS' BRUSH

By SIDNEY BURNS

(Copyright, Ford Pub. Co.)

"I t'nk dat de dogs ees running on their heels," said the baroness to her pilot, Capt. Molecule, as the pair pulled up.

The pilot squirmed at the words dogs and heels, murmured something inaudibly to himself, and replied: "Quite so, baroness; the hounds are, I believe, running heel."

Then the huntsman flashed upon the scene, grasped the situation in a glance, took hold of them and put them right, and galloped ahead with a cheery, "Hoic, together-for-ard-away!"

The Baroness de Cruchecasse was popular (with the men) and a liberal member of the Gorsehire hunt; smoked large and long cigars of great price, scaled at least 14 stone, knew nothing about hunting, and rode.

Molecule was a horseman and a sportsman to the nails; walked about eight stone—certainly rode under



"I Most Particularly Desire to Be in at Zee Hallah To-Day."

nine. His leading characteristic and pride lay on his admirable (that is, tenuous) leg for a boot.

Artfully, and, perhaps, wickedly, posted down wind, at the bottom of the covert the pair had stolen a good start, after a stole-away fox, which, silently, they viewed; the advantages of their maneuver being dissipated by the above-mentioned check, which allowed the master and a friend and the body of the field to come up.

The huntsman carried his line sweetly for a mile or more, when hounds briefly faulted again. While he was making his cast, the baroness took the opportunity of giving certain instructions to her accomplished pilot. "You will please note, captain," said she, "zat i most particularly desire to be in at zee hallah, to-day—at zee death, as you would say—for tonight, you know, ees zee bal masque at Gorsestown. I shall be habille—what you say habilled, costumed, dressed—as 'Diana Up-to-Date' (in hunting kit zat ees), and I am determined to effacer—ecraser—those others. And vovez vous, i moost have zee tail of zee fox."

"By those others" she meant the local ladies of the hunt, between whom and the baroness there was little love lost.

"M'yes, I see; just so," replied the pilot.

"And in order," continued the baroness, "in order to be quite en regle, it is absolutely necessary that I should have zee tail of zee fox for zee handle of my fan. Mark you well of that, Mon, le Capitaine."

Molecule squirmed again. That tall struck him like a flail. He merely answered: "All right, baroness; I'll do my best."

Then the order was again "Right away!" Some very pretty hunting and riding and fencing ensued. Everybody was fully occupied with his or her own business. For the time being, "those others" forgot the baroness, who, skillfully conducted by her pilot, kept well with the huntsman and the pack, riding somewhat on the left of the hounds, and keenly watching their trend, with a view of cutting possible corners.

There was another lady out that day—one in particular of many—a young, small and very pretty lady, and she stuck closely to the master. These two kept ever on the right of the pack, while the baroness and her pilot, hoping to achieve the chord of an arc, hung on the left of the hounds. The hounds ran very hard, throwing their tongues now and again, and the line was of the "large order" variety. The fences were frequent and stiff; the field began to fall. The pack swung right-handed, inasmuch that the baroness and her pilot, circling wide, had leeway to make up.

Ere long the pilot found that his charge was in trouble. Her mount, not quite up to her weight, began to sway and roll and make a noise. As they took an oxcart, the baroness's horse landed with one of these pecks, two of which spell grief, and, charging 12 feet of water, down came lady and steed—on the right side of the brook, happily.

Quickly up again and off, the baroness was enraged to see the master (on his second horse) far ahead to the right, closely followed by that other lady, who seemed to be going strong and well. Her ladyship uttered, in her native tongue, some remarks which need not be repeated here.

Soon after this a lucky turn to the left and a face-about of some miles left the couple in, but too late. They heard the loud "whoop-whoop!" and the label of hounds. When they came up all was over, and that other lady was in proud possession of the brush, which, having been informed of the aspirations of the baroness, the master begged her to thrust under her covert-coat.

Meanwhile, the hallah being cried beside the corpse containing the body of a flagitious sheep-dog, the tail of the latter had been secured as a trophy for the baroness, to whom the master handed it with gracious courtesy.

That night the baroness duly appeared at the ball, "all smiles," dressed in a glorified edition of hunting garb, and triumphantly bearing on the handle of her fan that which she termed "zee tail of zee fox." But that other lady, young and fair, whom the master delighted to honor, also carried a trophy of the chase—the trophy, indeed.

And so what Mme. de Cruchecasse dubbed "zee tail of zee fox" everybody else called "the baroness' brush."

## The King and the Vagabond.

His majesty had been threatened by a drunken vagabond who crowded past the guards. The king promptly knocked him down.

"With which of your august fists did you strike the ruffian?" anxiously inquired the king's chief adviser.

"With my left," replied the monarch. "Good," cried the adviser. "It would have been sacrilege to use your divine right upon such a low ruffian."

And the king laughed and strode along.