

THOUSAND LIE DEAD IN STRICKEN SAN FRANCISCO'S SMOKING RUINS

Debris Takes Fire in Many Places and Eight Square Miles of Buildings in the Wholesale District Are Destroyed--Blaze Spreads to Residence Section and City Seems Doomed.

At Least One Thousand Are Known to Be Dead and Other Thousands Are More or Less Injured, While Many Thousands More Wander Homeless in Streets or Huddle in Parks, Waiting for the Coming of Daylight and End of the Affliction.

Additional details but add to the extent of the San Francisco calamity. All the horror that was imagined from the meager accounts that came early seem to be fully confirmed by the later news. It is impossible yet to tell the full extent of the disaster, but at nightfall it was known that at least 1,000 persons had lost their lives in San Francisco, while 2,000 or 3,000 more were more or less seriously injured. In addition to these, thousands of homeless, huddled in the parks or open streets, waiting for the coming of another day that would reveal more of the extent of the terrible destruction wrought there by the fire and earthquake. It was estimated last evening that at least \$100,000,000 worth of property had been destroyed.

The government of the United States moved with all promptness to relieve the distress of the people in San Francisco, and tents for shelter and government rations for food are to be issued as fast as possible.

At least eight square miles of the best built portion of San Francisco, containing all the public buildings and the magnificent private structures of which the city was so proud, are included in the area wrecked by the earthquake and the fire that followed it. The city is stricken most sorely. Troops are guarding the streets and doing all possible to assist the authorities of the city to restore order and determine the full extent of the calamity. It is not likely that this will be known for several days.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 18.—Earthquake and fire today have put nearly half of San Francisco in ruins. Probably 1,000 people have been killed, 1,000 others injured and the property loss will exceed \$100,000,000. Thousands of people are homeless and destitute and all day long streams of people have been fleeing from the stricken districts to places of safety.

It was 5:15 o'clock this morning when a terrific earthquake shook the whole city and surrounding country. One shock apparently lasted two minutes and there was almost immediate collapse of flimsy structures all over the city. The water supply was cut off and when fires broke out in various sections there was nothing to do but to let the buildings burn.

Communication Cut Off.
Telegraph and telephone communication was shut off for a time. The Western Union was put completely out of business and the Postal company was the only one that managed to get a wire out of the city. About 10 o'clock even the Postal was forced to suspend in San Francisco. Electric power was stopped and street cars did not run. Railroads and ferry boats also ceased operations.

The various fires have been raging all day and the fire department has been powerless to do anything except to dynamite the buildings threatened. All day long explosions have shaken the city and added to the terror of the inhabitants. Following the first shock there was another within five minutes, but not nearly so severe. Three hours later there was another slight quake.

Steel Structures Undamaged.
Today's experience has been a testimonial to the modern steel building. A score of these structures were in course of erection and not one of them suffered. The completed modern buildings were also immune from harm by earthquake. The buildings that collapsed were all flimsy wooden and old-fashioned brick structures. The damage by earthquake does not begin to compare with the loss by fire.

Looters Shot on Sight.
Mayor Schmitz was about early and took measures for the relief and protection of the city. General Funston was quickly communicated with, and by 9 o'clock 1,000 federal soldiers were guarding the city and assisting the firemen in dynamiting the buildings. General Funston realized that stern measures were necessary, and gave orders that looters were to be shot at sight. Four men were summarily executed before 2 o'clock this afternoon.

At a meeting of fifty citizens called by the mayor it was announced that 1,500 tents would be pitched in Golden Gate park and arrangements had been made to feed the destitute in the public squares.

All efforts to prevent the fire from reaching the Palace and Grand hotels were unsuccessful and both were completely destroyed, together with all their contents.

All Theaters Destroyed.
All of San Francisco's best play houses, including the Majestic, Columbia, Orpheum

and Grand opera houses are a mass of ruins. The earthquake demolished them for all practical purposes and the fire completed the work of destruction. The handsome Hialto and Casserly buildings were burned to the ground, as was everything in that district. The scene at the Mechanics' pavilion during the early hours of the morning and up to noon, when the injured and dead were removed because of threatened destruction of the building by fire, was one of indescribable sadness. Sisters, brothers, wives, and sweethearts eagerly searched for some missing dear one. Thousands of persons hurriedly went through the building inspecting coats on which the sufferers lay in the hope that they would find some loved one that was missing. The dead were placed in one portion of the building and the remainder was devoted to hospital purposes. After the fire forced the nurses and physicians to desert the building eager crowds followed them to the Presidio and the children's hospital, where they renewed their search for missing relatives.

Hundreds of Injured Treated.
Up to a late hour this afternoon more than 700 persons who were seriously injured by the earthquake and the fire had been treated at the various hospitals throughout the city.

The front of the Bailey and the Lacoste building on Clay street, near Montgomery, fell, killing three men.

Captain of the police department was seriously injured at noon today by the falling of a tile.

The stercorators and pressmen of the Examiner and the Call, as soon as the shock was felt, rushed out of their buildings and found that the coffee houses at Stevenson and Third streets had collapsed. They immediately set to work with axes and anything in the way of an implement with which they could provide themselves, to rescue those inside.

The sheds over the Southern Pacific's long wharves on San Francisco bay have completely collapsed and thousands of tons of coal went in to the bay. The long wharf was one of the most important shipping points about the bay and freight traffic will be interrupted considerably.

As a result of the breaking of the mains of the Spring Valley Water company the town of San Mateo was flooded. It was owing to the broken mains that the fire gained such headway in San Francisco. The town of San Rafael, despite its own troubles, dispatched fire fighting apparatus to San Francisco.

From early morning the offices of the Western Union and Postal Telegraph companies in Oakland have been filled with people in all walks of life filing messages of inquiry as to the conditions of friends and interests in other cities of California, which suffered from the earthquake shock. The fire swept down the streets so rapidly that it was practically impossible to save anything in its way. It reached the Grand opera house on Mission street and in a moment had burned through the roof. The Metropolitan Opera company from New York had just opened its season there and all the expensive scenery and costumes were soon reduced to ashes. From the opera house the fire leaped from building to building, quickly leveling them. The

BULLETIN.

OAKLAND, Cal., April 19.—12:30 a. m.—At the present time the flames have spread from the business to the residence district and it seems the whole city is doomed. Several large buildings were blown up with dynamite, but even this heroic action was not sufficient to stay the spread of the flames. Federal troops are on duty assisting the police, and have orders to shoot anyone found looting.

Call editorial and mechanical departments were totally destroyed in a few minutes.

Spreckels Building Destroyed.
The flames leaped across Stevenson street toward the five fifteen-story stone and iron Claus Spreckels building, which with its lofty dome is the most notable edifice in San Francisco. Two small wooden buildings furnished fuel to ignite the splendid pile. Thousands of people watched the hungry tongues of flame licking the stone walls. At first no impression was made, but suddenly there was a cracking of glass and an entrance was effected. The interior furnishings of the fourth floor were the first to go. Then as if by magic smoke issued from the top of the dome. This was followed by a most spectacular illumination. The round windows of the dome shone like so many full moons; they burst and gave vent to long waving streamers of flame. The great structure, which had withstood the forces of the earthquake appeared doomed to fall a prey to fire. After a while the light grew less intense and the flames, having nothing more to consume, went out, leaving the building standing, but completely gutted.

The Palace hotel, the rear of which was constantly threatened, was the scene of much excitement, the guests leaving in haste, many with only the clothing they were wearing. Finding that the hotel, being surrounded on all sides by streets, was likely to remain immune, many returned and made arrangements for the removal of their belongings, though little could be taken away owing to the utter absence of transportation facilities.

Army Headquarters Burn.
The Parrott building, in which were located the chambers of the state supreme court, the lower floors being devoted to an immense department store, was ruined, but its massive walls were not all destroyed. A little further down Market street the Academy of Sciences and the Jennie Flood building and the History building burned like so much tinder. Sparks carried across the wide street, ignited the Phelan building and the army headquarters of the Department of California were burned.

Still nearer the bay, the waters of which did the firemen good service, along the docks, the fire took the Hialto building, a handsome skyscraper, and converted scores of solid business blocks into smoldering piles of bricks.

Banks and commercial houses, supposed to be fireproof, though not of modern build, burned quickly and the roar of the flames could be heard even on the hills which were out of the danger zone. Here many thousands of people congregated and witnessed the awful scene. Great masses of flame rose high in the heavens or rushed down some narrow street, joining midway between the sidewalks and making a horizontal chimney of the former ways.

The dense smoke that arose from the entire business district spread out like an immense funnel and could have been seen for miles out at sea. Occasionally, as some drug house or place stored with chemicals was reached, most fantastic effects were produced by the colored flames and smoke which rolled out against the darker background.

A finance committee with James D. Phelan at the head was appointed and Mayor Schmitz was instructed to issue drafts for all needs on this committee.

A general meeting of the citizens' committee has been called for 10 o'clock tomorrow morning.

Outside Aid Needed.
It is probable that even with the spirit and willingness shown by San Francisco people outside aid will be necessary. A message from President Roosevelt was received this morning and it had a cheering effect. George Gould also telegraphed offering assistance. The burned district extends from the waterfront south of Market street to Market street and west to Eleventh street, north of Market. The fire ex-

OMAHA TO HELP.

Mayor Zimmerman last night determined to call together at noon today a number of Omaha's representative citizens, who will consult as to what action will be taken to assist the people of San Francisco in their present distress. The extent of the calamity as far as known is enough to warrant the public action proposed, and the conference will determine on how it is to be done.

BULLETIN.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 18.—11 p. m.—The Merchants' Exchange building, one of the handsomest and most substantial edifices in the city, is in flames, as is also the Crocker-Woolworth bank building. The former building is a fourteen-story structure, seven floors of which are occupied by the Southern Pacific Railway company as offices.

The Crocker-Woolworth building is a twelve-story terra cotta and granite structure and stood directly opposite the Palace hotel. The immense D. O. Mills building is surrounded by fire and will probably succumb. The Lick house, Occidental hotel and Russ house in this immediate vicinity are in imminent danger.

The latest estimate places the property loss at \$200,000,000.

BULLETIN.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 18.—10 p. m.—It looks now as if the entire city would be burned. The Associated Press men are trying to get matter from Oakland by boat, but the chances are very uncertain. The government is furnishing tug, but the confusion is so great that they cannot be relied upon. It will be impossible to send full details for several days.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 18.—8 p. m.—Night added to the horror and as darkness fell the sky was illuminated in all directions. As the flames spread into the residence districts people left their homes and fled to the parks and squares. The series of rather severe shocks at 7 o'clock further increased the terror and many left homes that were not in danger.

BULLETIN.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 18.—From the Cliff house comes word that the great pleasure resort and show place of the city, which stood upon a foundation of solid rock, has been swept into the sea. Not a thing stands to tell where the monster stone building once stood. It has been leveled to the foundation and only the rock lining the seacoast remains intact.

BULLETIN.

OAKLAND, Cal., April 18.—5 p. m.—At this hour the fire in San Francisco is increasing in violence, spreading in all directions in both the business and residence quarters. It is reported that while a building was being blown up with dynamite a premature explosion killed fifteen men. The Terminal hotel at the waterfront and Market street fell today and buried twenty persons under the debris. These were incinerated and there is no possibility of learning their identity.

BULLETIN.

SACRAMENTO, Cal., April 18.—Dr. Stone, superintendent of the Napa State hospital, telephones the governor's office that an automobile arrived there with news that Santa Rosa is ruined and that between 200 and 300 people are killed.

BULLETIN.

OAKLAND, Cal., April 18.—It is reported that the mint in San Francisco is ablaze, and from outside indications it will be impossible to save it. The fire surrounds it on every hand.

BULLETIN.

OAKLAND, Cal., April 18.—9 p. m.—Practically the whole district south of Market street from the waterfront to the Mission has been swept clean by the flames.

tends out Hays and McAllister streets nearly to Fillmore and nearly to the waterfront along Market to Montgomery, and north from the waterfront to Montgomery street.

Manufactories, hotels, wholesale houses and residences comprising the principal part of the business section have been destroyed. The city hall, a structure costing \$7,000,000, was first wrecked by the earthquake and then destroyed by fire. The Palace hotel, value estimated at \$2,000,000, also burned. The beautiful Claus Spreckels building at Third and Market was gutted.

The Hialto building and dozens of other costly structures were also destroyed. The hall of justice is threatened and will undoubtedly go. The Examiner and the Call buildings are gone and the Crocker building across the street from the Palace hotel is on fire.

No Afternoon Papers Issued.
No afternoon papers were issued and it is doubtful if the morning papers will appear. The Southern Pacific trucks are in such condition that only a crippled train service has been possible. The Call building and its New street annex are still standing. The freaks of the earthquake were many. Wide fissures were made in the streets, street railways were twisted out of line, sewers and waterpipes were burst and it is feared that there will be an epidemic of disease.

Provisions are being sold at fancy prices and even water is being vended by the glass. It is impossible to give a list of the dead and wounded or even a list of the principal buildings.

Proclamation by the Mayor.
At a meeting of the committee of safety tonight Mayor Schmitz issued the following proclamation:

To the citizens of San Francisco: The federal troops, which are now policing a portion of the city as well as the regular and special members of the police force, have been authorized by me to kill any

(Continued on Second Page)

EARTHQUAKE SHOCK SHATTERS COAST CITIES OF CALIFORNIA

Sacramento, Oakland and Suburban Towns Shaken from Foundations by the Terrible Upheaval of Earth During Early Morning Hour With Unknown Result in Destruction

Insane Hospital at St. Agnews Wrecked and Between Two and Three Hundred People Perish—All But One of Stanford University Buildings at Palo Alto Destroyed or Damaged—Big Spreckels Sugar Refinery at Salina in Ruins While Destruction at Other Points Is Almost as Great.

BULLETIN.

SACRAMENTO, Cal., April 19.—Oscar Lucas arrived here last night from Santa Rosa. He left there at 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon. He said:

"There is not a brick or stone building left standing in Santa Rosa, and the entire devastated territory has been burned over."

"Dead bodies were being taken from the debris of wrecked houses on all sides. It is estimated that the death roll will foot up from 200 to 500."

BULLETIN.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 18.—Reports from outside of San Francisco indicate widespread damage. San Jose, fifty miles south, lost many buildings and from fifteen to twenty people were killed. The annex of the Vendome hotel collapsed and fire broke out. Stanford university and Palo Alto suffered. At Stanford many of the handsome buildings were demolished and two people were killed. One of them was Julius Robert Hans of Bradford, Pa., and the other was Otto Gurtz, from San Francisco.

Six other students are lying in the Palo Alto hospital, with bruises, cuts and internal injuries. These are Ross D. Howard of San Francisco, Henry L. Dearing of Santa Ana, Cal., Frolli Halbert, R. Thomas of Los Angeles, Robert Westwick of Santa Barbara and W. H. Masters of Portland, Ore.

The court house at Redwood City and other buildings collapsed. Menlo Park, Burlingame and other fashionable suburban towns suffered. Santa Rosa to the north, Napa, Vallejo and all other towns around the bay were damaged.

Salinas Nearly Destroyed.
SALINAS, Cal., April 18.—(115 Miles from San Francisco.)—At 5:15 a. m. today three shocks of earthquake visited this town, lasting, respectively, 5, 3 and 42 seconds. They came from the northeast and southwest. The damage will be \$2,500,000. No lives were lost, but a number of people were injured. Among the buildings destroyed in this town are the Ford and Stanbury buildings, dry goods, Elks' hall, Masonic building, the Knights of Pythias' building, armory, Porter & Irving stores, Logan cymery, Odd Fellows' building, city hall, Masonic temple and several other smaller buildings. Spreckels' sugar factory, about three miles from town, was entirely destroyed, with a loss of \$1,500,000. The high school building was also wrecked.

Another shock was experienced at 2:25 p. m.

At Watsonville the Moreland academy was destroyed by fire and several buildings collapsed. Shocks were also felt at Monterey and Pacific Grove, but little damage was done. At the Del Monte hotel three chimneys fell through the roof, killing a bride and groom and one of the hotel help, and injuring several others fatally. At Hollister the Grangers' Union warehouse has been destroyed. Mrs. Griffith was killed and her husband went insane from shock.

Marital Law at San Jose.
LOS ANGELES, Cal., April 18.—At San Jose the Vendome Hotel annex was badly wrecked and ten or fifteen people killed. The Doherty block was completely burned and one woman killed. Dr. DeGow was killed and his wife badly injured. Every business building was demolished. Martial law has been declared and the militia and 600 deputies are guarding the streets. It is estimated that fifty people have been killed. The postoffice was partly wrecked, the Presbyterian church totally demolished and the court house wrecked. Passengers arriving from other cities in California bring tales of death and disaster from Santa Cruz, Monterey, Gilroy and Hollister. The death list at Santa Cruz is reported large.

Santa Rosa is a total wreck and 10,000 people are homeless. The loss of life will probably reach hundreds. Main street is piled many feet deep with fallen buildings. Not one business building is left intact. The four-story court house is a pile of broken masonry, destroyed by fire. Citizens fled to the fields and hills to watch the destruction of the city. The water system was destroyed by the earthquake.

Hundreds Dead in Asylum.
LOS ANGELES, Cal., April 18.—A long distance telephone message from Salinas, 114 miles south of San Francisco, at 11 o'clock tonight gave the following information:

"One hundred and twenty bodies have been taken out of the Agnews insane asylum and there are probably 150 more corpses in the ruins. The magnificent structure was demolished. Eight Italians were taken out of the Italian hotel at San Jose. At that place the Presbyterian church and the high school were destroyed. The new hall of justice at San Jose, just completed at a cost of \$300,000, was demolished.

All but two of the university buildings at Stanford are in ruins. At Loma Prieta, 18 miles from Santa Cruz, a mine house slipped down the side of a mountain, burying ten men in the ruins."

BULLETIN.

NEW YORK, April 18.—Continued recurrence of earthquake shocks which were severe enough to alarm those remaining indoors was reported to the Western Union headquarters in New York City by its Oakland office. Shortly before 6 o'clock, New York time, the following message came from this office, located at Oakland, Cal.:

"Too many hard shocks to stay indoors much longer."

As this message came over the wire the telegraph instrument in New York City was continually disturbed, and the New York operator said he could account for this disturbance only as caused by the shocks at San Francisco. The seismic vibrations caused an unwonted clicking in the instrument.

The spread of the conflagration in San Francisco was further detailed in the following dispatch:

"Fire burning north of Broadway as far as Green street. Everything is gone in the section lying between Eighth street and the water front and southward between Market and Mission streets."

BULLETIN.

SACRAMENTO, Cal., April 18.—A severe earthquake shock occurred here at an early hour this morning. There is great confusion and it is impossible to learn the full extent of damage. No loss of life is yet reported.

Every town around San Francisco bay has suffered from the awful earthquake shock that wrecked the metropolis of the Pacific coast yesterday. While none of them felt the blow so severely as did San Francisco, none of them escaped it. At Palo Alto, where the Leland Stanford, jr., university is located, the wreck was great, and the university suffered heavy loss, several of its most magnificent buildings being ruined completely. At Berkeley, where the University of California is located, the destruction was also severe. San Jose, at the extreme southern end of the bay, was visited by a shock that destroyed lives and wrecked buildings. Vallejo, Sausalito, Benicia, Suisun and other towns around the bay report more or less wreckage, and Oakland and Sacramento are called on to bear severe loss.

Between Oakland and Porto Costa the roadbed of the Southern Pacific sank out of sight, while the roundhouse and tracks of the Santa Fe, across the bay from San Francisco, were completely destroyed. A part of the coastwise tracks of the Southern Pacific are also destroyed. In all directions around the bay the destruction of property was great, and it will be many days before the full extent of the damage can be told. The property loss will far exceed any ever experienced on the Pacific coast, and may likely exceed any on record for the United States.

The troubles of the smaller places have been lost sight of to some extent by the greater disaster at San Francisco, but some information is given in the telegrams that follow.

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All but two of the university buildings at Stanford are in ruins. At Loma Prieta, 18 miles from Santa Cruz, a mine house slipped down the side of a mountain, burying ten men in the ruins."

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OAKLAND, Cal., April 18.—6:45.—Another sharp shock of earthquake was just felt on this side of the bay. It was of short duration, lasting about five seconds.

EIGHT SQUARE MILES DEVASTATED

Entire Wholesale District Destroyed by Fire and Dynamite.
SAN FRANCISCO, April 18.—The latest reports at police headquarters show that the entire district bounded by Vallejo, Howard, East and Sansome streets, embracing practically the entire wholesale portion of the city, has been swept clean by the fire. Also the district bounded by Second, Market, Eighth and Folsom streets has been devastated. In the latter district are included most of the city's finest and most substantial buildings. The area covered by the flames up to the present time is about eight square miles, or several hundred city blocks. Very little, if any water is available and the blowing up of buildings by dynamite is the only means of checking the progress of the flames. The most of the buildings untouched by the flames have been greatly damaged by the earthquake shock. The pecuniary loss at this hour (4 p. m.) is conservatively estimated at \$100,000,000.

NEWS RECEIVED IN NEW YORK

First Report of Disaster Was Sent to the Metropolis.
NEW YORK, April 18.—At about 9:40 the Postal Telegraph company had communication with its San Francisco office, but lost the connection again almost immediately. In the brief period that the wire was working the San Francisco office reported that a number of buildings had collapsed and that the dead and injured were being taken from the ruins as rapidly as possible. At the time this message came through the principal danger was from the fire, a number of which had started and were making great headway owing to the lack of water. The Western Union telegraph office at Fresno says that it is the most severe shock ever known. They have no further details.

The Postal Telegraph company learned that the fire is eating its way along Market street. The water mains were burst by the earthquake so that there is no means at hand for fighting the conflagration. The electric lighting plant of the city has failed and gas mains are destroyed. The damage extends through the entire city. The Postal building was badly wrecked and the operating room is incapable of use.

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