FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ACTS

Troops Are Doing Guard Duty and Assisting in Relief Work.

TENTS AND RATIONS NEEDED AT ONCE

Secretary Taft Orders Supplies Sent from Portland—Pacific Squadron Enroute to San Francisco.

WASHINGTON, April 19.—The War department early this morning received the following second dispatch from General Funston at Oakland pier:

We are doing all possible to aid residents of San Francisco in the present terrible calamity. Many thousand homeless and I shall do everything in my power to render assistance and trust to War department to authorize any action I may have to take. Army casualties will be reported later. All important papers saved. We need tents and rations for 20,000 people.

FUNSTON.

A dispatch received early this morning from Army Commissary Trauthauff is as follows:

Depot destroyed by fire. Everything lost. Local troops supplied. Will wire in reference to Manila shipments.

TRAUTHAUFF.

Message from Governor Pardee.

The president received a telgram from Governor Pardee of California in response to the president's telegraphic inquiry sent early in the day. The governor's message follows:

SACRAMENTO, Cal., April 18.—To the President, Washington: Owing to the interruption of telegraphic communication the extent of the disaster in San Francisco is not well known here, but no doubt calamity very serious. People of California appreciate your prompt inquiry and offer of assistance. State troops doing patrol duty and if federal assistance is needed will call on you.

GEORGE C. PARDEE, Governor.

The first message received from General Funston arrived at 11:40 o'clock tonight. It was addressed to Secretary Taft, who had already retired. The message follows:

Secretary of War, Washington: We need thousands of tents and all the rations that can be sent. The business portion of the city destroyed and about 100,000 people are homeless. Fire still raging. Troops all on duty assisting the police. Loss of life probably 1,000. Best part of residence district not yet burned.

FUNSTON.

Orders will go forward from the War department tomorrow morning to the adjacent posts to carry out General Funston's recommendations.

Tents and Food Ordered.

The dispatch from General Funston was delivered to Secretary Taft by his secretary, Mr. Carpenter. Secretary Taft immediately summoned Brigadier General Bell, the chief of staff, and Brigadier General Sharpe, the commissary general, and orders were dispatched to the army post at Portland, the most convenient to San Francisco, directing that all tents necessary be furnished and all commissary supplies necessary be purchased at Portland and forwarded with the greatest expedition. The officers at Portland also were directed to confer with General Funston as to whether additional troops are needed, and that if more are found necessary, they be dispatched to the stricken city.

General A. W. Greeley can throw 3,000 soldiers into the city from the Presidio and fortifications adjoining San Francisco. At the Presidio there are three companies of the Fourteenth cavalry, three batteries of field artillery and ten companies of coast artillery. At Fort Mason there are two companies of engineers. Fort McDowell has five companies of infantry, Fort Baker has two companies of coast artillery and at Alcatraz island there are five more companies of infantry. The total number of tents available is 3,345. In an emergency temporary shelter can be afforded by these tents to 20,000 persons.

The Pacific squadron under command of Admiral Goodrich sailed yesterday from San Diego for San Pedro Bay, Cal. Secretary Bonaparte said that this squadron can be sent to San Francisco without delay in case its assistance be needed. The squadron consists of the Chicago, Boston, Marblehead and Princeton.

President Expresses Sorrow.

President Roosevelt manifested profound interest throughout the day in the news of the earthquake at San Francisco. Early in the day he sent the following telegrams to Governor George C. Pardee at Sacramento and Mayor Eugene E. Schmitz at San Francisco:

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 18, 1906.—Hear rumors of great disaster through an earthquake at San Francisco, but know nothing of the real facts. Call upon me for any assistance I can render.

THEODORE ROOSEVELT.

Later in the day he sent the following dispatch to Mayor Schmitz:

I share with all our people the horror felt at the catastrophe that has befallen San Francisco and the most earnest sympathy with your citizens. If there is anything that the federal government can do to aid you it will be done.

THEODORE ROOSEVELT.

He also sent the following to Governor Pardee:

It was difficult at first to credit the news of the calamity that has befallen San Francisco. I feel the greatest concern for you and the people not only of San Francisco, but of California, in this terrible news. You will let me know if anything that the federal government can do.

THEODORE ROOSEVELT.

House Takes Action at Once.

The following resolution authorizing all possible aid to be extended the sufferers from the San Francisco earthquake, prepared at the instance of Speaker Cannon, was passed by the house today:

Resolved, By the senate and house of representatives of the United States of America, in congress assembled, That the secretary of war be and is hereby authorized and directed to loan to the mayors of the cities of San Francisco, Berkeley, Oakland, Alameda and such other cities on the Pacific coast as have sustained damage, under such regulation and restriction as he may deem proper, a sufficient number of tents to temporarily shelter such persons as may have been rendered homeless and lost property by the earthquake of this date and attending conflagration, and to issue rations, supplies and render such other aid to such as are destitute and unable to provide for themselves.

Be it further provided, That the secretary of the treasury and the secretary of the navy are also hereby directed to co-operate with the secretary of war in extending relief and assistance to the stricken people herein referred to to the extent of the use of the naval vessels, revenue cutters and supplies under their control on the Pacific coast.

Several Congressmen Affected.

Aside from the keen sympathetic interest of members of congress regarding the San Francisco disaster, several members of the California delegation have been making all possible efforts toward getting direct information from their families in the stricken city. Representative Julius Kahn, whose wife has a three-days old son, and is confined at his home in the residential section of the city, has made strenuous but so far unsuccessful efforts to get word to or from her. Mr. Kahn leaves for San Francisco tomorrow.

Representative Lacey of Iowa has a daughter, Mrs. Brewster, who resides in the Hotel St. Nicholas, and he, too, has made several unsuccessful efforts to communicate with the coast. Representative Gillette of California is much exercised regarding the safety of his two daughters. One of his daughters is attending the Leland Stanford university at Palo Alto, about thirty miles from the city, and the other is at Mills college on the Oakland side of the bay.

Senator Ankeny of Washington has a son who is a student at the University of California at Berkeley. Senator Nixon of Nevada has a son at Belmont, three miles from Palo Alto.

Chicago Will Send Aid.

CHICAGO, April 18.—Chicago will take immediately official action to aid in relieving the suffering and destitution in San Francisco. A special meeting of the city council has been called for tomorrow afternoon at 4 o'clock, at which resolutions of sympathy will be tendered to the stricken city, and Mayor Dunne will be authorized to appoint a committee representing all of the business houses, trades organizations and nationalities in the city to take charge of the contributions of money and supplies which will be sent to the Pacific coast as rapidly as possible. This committee is now being formed. Immediately after the official appointment of the committee a meeting will be held and arrangements for the formation of trains bearing relief to the stricken city will be made.

Besides the official action to be taken by the city a mass meeting of citizens will be held tomorrow morning for the purpose of formulating measures of relief. The Chicago Clearing House association telegraphed the Clearing House association of San Francisco today expressing the deepest sympathy and tendering assistance in any manner in which it may be desirable.

At a meeting of the Chicago Commercial association tonight a message was sent to the president of the Merchant association in San Francisco offering financial aid to the citizens of San Francisco.

Offers from Many Cities.

PITTSBURG, April 18.—Mayor Guthrie tonight issued an appeal to the citizens of Pittsburg to attend a mass meeting at the Chamber of Commerce tomorrow afternoon and to bring their bank rolls and check books with them for the purpose of starting a relief fund for the California earthquake sufferers. Appeals of the same nature were also made by the mayors of Allegheny and McKeesport.

BOSTON, April 18.—This afternoon Governor Guild, Mayor Fitzgerald and Kidder, Peabody & Co., the last named acting as treasurer for the relief committe, telegraphed authority to the governor of California and the mayor of San Francisco jointly to draw upon the bank at once to the extent of $25,000. A duplicate telegram was sent to Governor Pardee of California and Mayor Schmitz of San Francisco.

BALTIMORE, April 18.—Mayor E. Clay Timanus today sent a telegram to Mayor Schmitz of San Francisco expressing deepest sympathy of Baltimore citizens and asking if any assistance can be rendered.

NEW YORK, April 18.—A special meeting of the New York Chamber of Commerce was called today to consider plans for the relief of the earthquake sufferers at San Francisco.

CINCINNATI, April 18.—Acting Mayor Pfaff telegraphed to the mayor of San Francisco a message of sympathy and an offer of every assistance possible.

LIGHT INSURANCE IS CARRIED

Immunity from Losses Results in Overconfidence.

CHICAGO, April 18.—Fire insurance companies had about $250,000,000 at risk in the city of San Francisco, the estimate being based on the premiums received in 1905.

For years the Pacific coast has been the one section of the country which could be depended upon for a steady profit year in and year out. San Francisco has been the best profit producer of the coast. Its loss ratio for a period of years has been the lowest, being less than 25 per cent of any city in the country, despite the unusual proportion of frame construction. As a result of this unusually favorable experience rates were low in that city and all the fire insurance companies wrote very liberally. On the other hand, the proportion of insurance to value was small, partly because of over-confidence resulting from the long immunity from heavy losses and also because there is no co-insurance clause in use there, as is the rule in other large cities, requiring the owner to carry a certain proportion of insurance to value.

The total San Francisco premiums in 1905 were $2,865,546, of which $1,465,579 was written in American companies and $1,340,880 in foreign companies. The latter proportion is much greater than that held by foreign countries in the country at large, as they have always specially developed the Pacific coast business. There were 105 fire companies doing business in California last year.

Western Union Moves to Oakland.

WASHINGTON, April 18.—Secretary Taft was advised tonight by the Western Union Telegraph company that there is no communication with San Francisco by any route of that company. The Western Union company has its chief California office at Oakland and the secretary was advised that all messages he has directed to General Funston are being sent to Oakland and will be sent to the general at the earliest possible moment. The dispatch stated that no boats are running.

Sterling Silver—Frenzer, 15th and Dodge.

CAUSE OF THE EARTHQUAKE

Prof. Hayes Says it is Due to Slipping of Surface Rocks.

RESULT OF LOCAL CONDITIONS

Other Scientists Agree that It Has No Connection with the Eruption of Vesuvius.

WASHINGTON, April 18.—The possible relation of the earthquake in San Francisco to the eruption of Mount Vesuvius formed the subject of much discussion among scientists in this city today. None of them was willing to advance any argument which would tend to connect one with the other. In fact the officials of the geological survey declared that there was no relationship whatever, both being local.

Prof. C. W. Hayes, director of geology of the geological survey, said:

"The San Francisco disturbances are due to the slipping of the surface rocks to adjust themselves to changed conditions inside the earth. They have no relationship whatever to the eruption of Vesuvius. The interior of the earth is in a molten state except in the region of the volcanoes, but if you go down a distance of sixty or seventy miles the rocks are practically in a fluid state from the immense pressure on top of them. They act like a liquid and they flow to adjust themselves to changed conditions. But when you come nearer the surface where the strata are hard and brittle, the slipping of a part of the earth's crust along the line of a fault will give you just the conditions that attended the attack in San Francisco."

Seismic Disturbance in England.

LONDON, April 19.—The calamity which has befallen the people of San Francisco overshadows in interest all other topics in the newspapers here this morning. All the papers publish long special dispatches describing the terrible effects of the earthquake, together with descriptions of the city, its beauty, etc., and interviews with San Franciscans resident in London—in fact anything calculated to bring home to the English reader a realization of the stupendous disaster. Following so closely the eruption of Mount Vesuvius and the earthquakes on the island of Formosa, the question is anxiously debated whether there is any connection between these events. Few scientists have as yet expressed an opinion on the subject.

Prof. John Milne, whose seismic observatory at Shideon on the Isle of Wight recorded a disturbance at 1:30 o'clock Wednesday afternoon, English time, expresses the opinion that the earthquake had no connection whatever with the volcanic eruption. E. W. Mauender, superintendent of Greenwich observatory, on the contrary considers that it in all probability was a direct consequence of the activity of Mount Vesuvius, whose eruption doubtless started a severe wave movement through the crust of the earth. He considers, however, that there is not sufficient reason to connect the catastrophe with displays of solar activity and comments on the comparative rarity of earthquakes in the United States.

Dr. Davidson of Birmingham, another seismic expert, obtained valuable records, but could suggest no connection between the Vesuvius and San Francisco disasters.

All the morning newspapers printed editorials deeply sympathizing with the American people and victims of the catastrophe. The Standard says: "We are well convniced that there will not be lacking in this land so happily removed from these sudden calamities an impulse to succor our brethren in distress."

Prof. Davidson's Observations.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 18.—Prof. George Davidson of the University of California, formerly connected with the United states geodetic survey, said tonight:

The earthquake came from north to south, and the only description I am able to give of its effect to me is that it seemed like a terrier shaking a rat. I was in bed, but was awakened at the first shock. I began to count the seconds as I went towards the table where my watch was, being able through much practice to closely approximate time in that manner. The shock came at 5:12 o'clock. The first sixty seconds were the most severe. From that time on it decreased gradually for about thirty seconds. There was then the slightest perceptible lull, then the shock continued for sixty seconds longer, being slighter in degree in this minute than in any part of the preceding minute and a half. There were two very slight shocks, which I do not record, at 5:17 and 5:27. At 6:50 p. m. there was a sharp shock of several seconds.

Regarding the cause, I maintain, as I always have, that it is the earth cooling on the inside. The cooling brings about contraction, which is found to create a readjustment of the earth's surface.

I have heard talk of the eruption of Vesuvius having connection with this disaster, but that is rank nonsense. My sismograph was twisted out of shape by the shock, so I have no record from that.

As to telling whether there will be a repetition of the earthquake, I can no more predict that than I could have predicted the ones of today.

Not Related to Vesuvius.

BERLIN, April 19.—Prof. Archenhold, director of Treptow Astronomical observatory, expresses himself as very doubtful regarding the idea that the eruption of Vesuvius and the earthquake at San Francisco were of common origin.

Shock Felt in Vienna.

VIENNA, April 18.—A telegram from the government observatory at Laibach says that from 2:25 to 2:50 o'clock this afternoon the seismograph recorded a distant earthquake of great force and destructiveness. The indications showed that the disturbances were much more violent than those which recently occurred in Formosa.

As the difference in time between San Francisco and Vienna is nine hours six minutes, it follows that the disturbance shown by the seismograph at Laibach practically synchronized with the earthquake shock experienced at San Francisco at 5:13 a. m.

Vibration Recorded in Pittsburg.

PITTSBURG, April 18.—That the vibrations caused by the San Francisco earthquake were distinctly felt here today was demonstrated by a large Foucault pendulum which hangs suspended from the ceiling of the Physical laboratory at the Carnegie Technical school. At 8:52 this morning this pepdulum suddenly changed its usual motion caused by the movement of the earth and began to swing rapidly back and forth. The incident created something of a sensation in the school.

Tidal Wave is Predicted.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., April 18.—"Another and an even greater disaster than the earthquake threatens San Francisco. A tidal wave would not be an unlooked for accompaniment to the present seismic disturbances," said Prof. H. L. Fairchild of the University of Rochester today. "Much of San Francisco is only twelve feet above tide water and this fact renders it particularly liable to destruction in such an event."

NO CONNECTION WITH VESUVIUS

General Greely Says Same Disturbance Not Cause of Both.

Major General A. W. Greely, in command of the Military Division of the Pacific with headquarters in San Francisco, and formerly chief signal officer of the United States army, is in Omaha and received his first intelligence of the San Francisco earthquake from The Bee reports: He said:

"There is, in my opinion, not the slightest possibility of the San Francisco earthquake having any connection with the recent seismic disturbances at Mount Vesuvius."

Major General Adolphus W. Greely, formerly chief signal officer of the United States army, but now in command of the Division of the Pacific with headquarters at San Francisco, arrived in Omaha Wednesday morning enroute, on a short leave of absence east. He was a visitor at army headquarters Wednesday forenoon and paid a brief visit to Fort Omaha during the afternoon, leaving for the east Wednesday evening.

"I am enroute east to attend the marriage of my daughter, Miss Adelaide," said General Greely, "which will take place April 24, at East Hampton, Massachusetts. She will be married to Rev. Charles L. Adams, of East Hampton. I regret extremely that I am absent from San Francisco just at this time, in view of the calamity which has befallen that city. I left San Francisco Saturday. I have wired there for information relative to the disaster, but have been unable to receive a reply, but am anxiously awaiting one. The Pacific Division headquarters are in the Grant building and I do not know whether my headquarters are in the general wreck or not. As commander of the Pacific Division there would be much for me to do at San Francisco just now, and I feel my absence from the city with most regret.

"As regards balloon experiments being undertaken at Fort Omaha, I am still in much doubt, as it was a year ago when I was with the Signal department. It may be possible that apparatus will be placed at Fort Omaha for manufacturing and condensing hydrogen gas for ballooning purposes."

EFFECT ON WORK OF POSTOFFICE

Superintendent West Speaks of Result of Shake Up.

CHICAGO, April 18.—The federal authorities in this city declared today that they have received information indicating that the reports of the disaster in San Francisco have fallen short of the actual facts.

Superintendent of Mails West declared that he had been informed by officials of the railroad carrying the through mails between here and the Pacific coast that the loss of property will be immense and that it is certain that the death list will run into the thousands. Superintendent West said:

"The mail service in California will be hampered almost beyond description. Incoming mails from across the Pacific ocean must be landed somewhere else than San Francisco and this will cause great delay in the arrival of the mail at eastern points."

CHICAGO, April 18.—Considerable damage from the earthquake is reported as having occurred in the city of Sacramento as well as in San Francisco.

The telegraph companies here are entirely without wires to San Francisco. The Sacramento office of the Western Union reports a very heavy earthquake west. Los Angeles reports having lost all wires at 5:13 a. m.

The Union Pacific wires are now working to Reno, but have been destroyed west of Winnemucca.

Superintendent West said his information from the railroads was to the effect that two wooden buildings erected to withstand earthquake had been damaged but little. The skyscrapers fared much worse, and the swaying of the foundations twisted the iron girders from their anchorage and threw the masonry into the streets with great violence. The large office building of the Union Pacific railroad situated at Market and California streets was one of the first buildings to fall and a number of people are reported to have been killed in the ruins. All of the regular passenger depots are said to have been destroyed by the earthquake and the railroads are now compelled to run around the city in order to do what little business they can.

Further information received by the mail division of the Union Pacific railroad was to the effect that the fire had swept from the water front out as far as Ninth street, a distance of two miles.

According to the latest information the buildings of the Call, Examiner and Chronicle were destroyed by fire. The Merchants' exchange, owned by the Union Pacific railroad was so badly wrecked that nobody could enter it.

Four Thieves Shot by Soldiers.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 18.—4 p. m.—The fire is still burning and buildings in the heart of the business section are being dynamited to stop the spread of the flames. The number of killed will probably reach 200 and injured ten times that number. Experts estimate the financial loss from fire at more than $100,000,000. The city is under martial law and precautions have been taken to prevent disorder and looting tonight. Four thieves were shot by soldiers this afternoon for looting. The soldiers have orders to shoot without warning any person acting in a suspicious manner. The city hall has burned, also many of the principal business blocks, and the hall of justice is threatened. Measures have already been taken for the relief of the destitute. They will be fed and protected in Golden Gate park and the public squares.

Operators Return to Work.

SALT LAKE CITY, April 18.—9 a. m.—Reports received by the Salt Lake office of the Postal Telegraph company from San Francisco would indicate that the first reports of the earthquake in San Francisco were exaggerated.

Superintendent W. P. S. Hawk was in communication with the San Francisco office of the Postal company after the earthquake. He was informed that it would be necessary for the operating force to vacate the San Francisco office. This was done and the operators left the building, but returned within an hour and business was resumed. San Francisco reported that water mains in Market street had broken.

No Wire to Sacramento.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 18.—A Western Union dispatch received at the War department says:

"No wire now between Oakland and Sacramento. Martial law forbids the landing of passengers in San Francisco from Oakland. Later advices state that the Market street office has been abandoned."

THOUSAND DEAD IN SMOKING RUINS

(Continued from Second Page.)

vent the spread of flames. The fire is now within one-half block of their general offices. They have dismantled two buildings. Hope to check it. No one is allowed to enter the city and boats and trains are crowded with refugees.

OMAHA PEOPLE ARE INTERESTED

Many Have Relatives There and Fear for Their Safety.

Several Omaha families are anxiously awaiting details from San Francisco.

Carl Reiter, manager of the Orpheum theater, and Mrs. Reiter are greatly worried over the news of the earthquake. Mr. Reiter's parents reside at Fifth and Tehama streets, which is but four blocks from the center of the greatest havoc. At Fouth and Tehama a whole family was in a collapse. Mr. Reiter endeavored in vain to communicate by wire with his people. Mr. Reiter was for some years in San Francisco. He tells an interesting story of a slight earthquake experienced while he was manager of the zoo at the Chutes.

"If you will redlect," said Mr. Reiter, "you will see that most all these earthquakes come early in the morning, at least after midnight. One night about 12:30 when we were out at the Chutees the master of a big elephant which we had just taken in, wanted to show us his monster in the peaceful act of sleeping. We went with him to the elephant's bed chamber, the master started up the elephant, when suddenly the great animal awoke, arose and made a lunge for the exit. His master grabbed a hook and took an affectionate hold on him in the ear, but the elephant kept going, dragging his master the full length of the tent. Meantime we felt a considerable shock. It was an incipient earthquake, but the strange thing was the elephant seemed to have a premonition, either that or he felt it first. It is said to be a natural animal instinct."

A. Mandelberg wired to San Francisco to ascertain whether his relatives had suffered. He has received no reply and the telegraph company advised him the chances for further delay were excellent.

Mr. Mandelberg's folks reside up on Van Ness avenue, which is in the opposite direction from which the earthquake seems to have gone, and he believes they are safe. Had the hour of the disaster been later and his people been at their place of business, which is within a block or two of the Palace hotel, he thinks they would have suffered considerably. Mr. Mandelberg was visiting his relatives when the Bennington was blown up in the bay of San Diego, and in commenting on how the people there stand in holy terror of earthquakes, he said:

"One morning, early, before getting up time, one of the family came into my room, woke me and asked if I felt the earthquake. I replied I felt something shake, but thought it was a door slammed. At the breakfast table we got our morning paper and read the accounts of the Bennington disaster. As shocks of this kind are often felt along the coast, the general decision was the shock we felt was not an earthquake, but that of the United States vessel."

William Randall of the auditor's office at the Burlington headquarters has a married daughter in San Francisco and he and his family are extremely anxious about her and her family. They cannot reach them by wire.

Miss Clara Thomas, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dexter L. Thomas, 611 South Twenty-fifth avenue, is thought to be in San Francisco. She has been in southern California since last December. Her folks had a letter from her a day or two ago, saying she was to leave Santa Barbara Sunday for San Francisco, en route home by the northern way and they fear she may have been in San Francisco when the earthquake came.

Charles Rutherford, formerly district passenger agent of the Rock Island in Omaha, is now the Rock Island's agent in San Francisco. His brother, F. P. Rutherford, is his successor in Omaha. The latter thinks the brother is safe, because, while his office is in the Palace hotel, his residence is out from the business district.

Albert Morrison of the Burwood Stock company has a mother and father, a brother and other relatives living in San Francisco. His brother is a reporter on the Call. Mr. Morrison was much worried Wednesday morning when he learned of the disaster.

Edward Swobe of the New York Life Insurance company is anxious regarding the safety of his brother, Dwight, who lives in the stricken city. He resides at the Plymouth hotel.

Dr. O. S. Hoffman is another Omahan who is anxiously awaiting news from relatives living in San Francisco. The doctor intended to go to that city last week, but postponed his trip.

Detective Savage has a brother living at Sutro Heights, which is remote from the worst stricken section.

T. B. Hatcher has seven or eight close relatives living in San Francisco. He was making efforts to communicate with them by telegram.

Mrs. R. B. Stevenson, of the Sherman, is disturbed over the reports, for her parents reside in San Francisco and cannot be heard from. They live at 1069 Bush street.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Phelps of Omaha and three daughters are visiting in San Francisco. Reports bring the assurance that visitors generally are safe, hotels where they are stopping not being destroyed.

Miss C. Midgley, 2571 St. Mary's avenue, has two cousins in the striken city for whose safety she is anxious.

C. A. Peterson of 3424 Seward street has a brother, L. A. Larson, at the Golden West hotel in San Francisco. This hotel is situated, or was, on Ellis and Powell streets.

Mrs. Anna B. Scott, 1318 Georgia avenue, has a son and daughter at 29 Van Ness avenue, San Francisco.

The Omaha offices of the Western Union and Postal Telegraph companies have been overtaxed in the attempt to forward the stream of messages sent by anxious friends to persons living in or known to be at San Francisco and other points in the disturbed district. It is an utter impossibility to send the messages direct into the city and the telegrams are sent to the nearest relay offices of the companies and from there forwarded by mail.

W. B. Wilkins has a son in San Francisco. Owing to worry over the possible fate of his son Mr. Wilkins did not appear last night to fill his number in the Jules Lumbard benefit program.

Reports of the earthquake and consequent fire at Santa Rosa brought distress to Miss Ruth Chase, teacher at the Kellom school. She has a sister, Miss Alice Chase, there. She is employed on the Santa Rosa Republican and no word has been received from her. Santa Rosa is the county seat of Sonoma county. It is some 12,000 in population and is about sixty miles north of San Francisco.

Mrs. Clement Chase's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Edwards, and their son are at Palo Alto, the seat of the Leland Stanford, jr., university. The young man is attending the university. They are distressed over the bad news from there.

Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Ayorigg, 201 South Thirty-third street, are among the Omaha people visiting in San Francisco. Mr. Ayorigg is assistant engineer for the Union Pacific.

CITY TOSSED LIKE A FEATHER

Great Metropolis Helpless in Grasp of Earthquake.

Manager Huntley of the local office of the Postal Telegraph company received several bulletins during the morning which showed the disaster unparalleled in San Francisco. The latest is:

Terrible fires are raging throughout the city. The Postal office was destroyed. Two blocks on Market street next to the Ferry depot are consumed and still burning. The water mains have bursted and the firemen are forced to use dynamite to try to check the path of the flames, blowing up large buildings in their efforts, but the flames remained unchecked. The city morgue and adjacent buildings are filled with dead and every hospital is glutted with wounded. Tourists are terrified and are leaving the hotels and rushing for outgoing trains. Baggage litters the sidewalks, with no teams available to haul it. Every person is looking out for himself. Fire is raging near the Palace hotel and the hotel is in great danger. Another fire is raging back of the Spreckels building. (This is the building in which the Call is located.) Every moment conditions grow worse. The city was tossed like a feather in the wind. No lights, either gas or electric, are available. Power of all kinds is shut off all over the city.

The Union Pacific officials attempted to get word from San Francisco via the Southern Pacific wires, but these were all down and communication was impossible.

Manager Umstead of the Western Union said all their wires were down, but from reports received in a round-about way the disaster is the worst of the century.

"In fact," said Mr. Umstead, "it could not be much worse. Our reports from Sacramento say thousands of lives are lost and all details are out of the question."

MANY BLUFFS PEOPLE ANXIOUS

Unable to Obtain News of Friends in Stricken City.

Council Bluffs people who have relatives and friends in San Francisco were naturally much alarmed for their safety and a number of telegrams on inquiry were sent from this city yesterday, but up to a late hour last night no answers had been received. Members of the Fifty-first Iowa volunteers, who were quartered in San Francisco for several months before being sent to the Philippines, made a number of warm friends in that city and a number of telegrams were sent by them to the stricken city.

Mr. and Mrs. M. B. Brown, formerly of this city, are in San Francisco, where both Mr. Brown and his son are connected with the Western Union Telegraph company. Mrs. Brown is a sister of Mrs. Rapaije of this city. Fitz Warren, a former resident of this city and father of Joe Warren, the young man under arrest in Omaha, is employed in the customs house in San Francisco. Hugh Burke, brother of the late Finley Burke, who was born and raised in this city, has been a resident of San Francisco for several years and is employed on the San Francisco Tribune.

Advices at the Western Union office in Omaha are to the effect that only one employe of that company was killed and his name was Jenkins, which would indicate Mr. Brown and son were safe.

SAM GRACE TOOK WISE COURSE

Omaha Man Gets Out of Going to Coast Last Week.

Sam Grace, secretary of the machinists lodges for the Harriman lines, might have been one of the victims in the San Francisco calamity if he had not been excused from carrying out the orders of the union, and thereby remained away from the coast. A conference between a committee from the machinist union and Southern Pacific officials was being held in San Francisco this week to decide upon certain grievances and working conditions. Grace was ordered to act as a member of the committee last week, but for various reasons did not care to go to the coast unless he had to. He managed to get out of the trip and Tom Wilson, former fourth vice president of the organization, and well known in Omaha and Nebraska, was sent in his place. Wilson was the man who led the Union Pacific strike three years ago. Whether or not he and his friends survived the disaster the machinists in Omaha do not know. They have great faith in Wilson's luck, however, and are willing to believe that if there was any chance he escaped with his life.

Meanwhile, Grace is not sorry he is pursuing his routine duties in Omaha at the district headquarters in the Bee building.

THE LARGEST AND STRONGEST SAVINGS SOCIETY IN OMAHA

The best can be none too good when it comes to laying away savings, or investing newly acquired funds.

An association of fourteen years successful experience with over $1,600,000 of business on its books; a reserve and undivided profit account of $57,000, and a record of paying not less than 6 per cent is worthy of your consideration.

A postal will bring full information.

The Conservative Savings & Loan Ass'n.

205 South 16th Street, Omaha

AMEND BIG INSURANCE BILL

Senator Armstrong Insists Senate Has Thereby Crippled the Measure.

ALBANY, N. Y., April 18.—An amendment of vital importance to the "big bill" generally amending the insurance law was made by the senate tonight at the close of an all-day debate. This amendment, which was adopted by a vote of 28 to 24, strikes out the provision requiring mutual companies to expose lists of policy holders in connection with their annual elections, and substitutes a provision requiring such companies to mail to all or any of their policy holders during the five months prior to any election, any matter required by 100 or more policy holders to be sent.

Senator Armstrong declared tonight that the amendment destroyed one of the crucial reforms sought by the insurance investigating committees.

VESUVIUS AGAIN ACTIVE

People Who Had Returned to Homes Compelled to Abandon Them Again.

NAPLES, April 18.—Volcanic ash is again falling at Santa Anastasia, Somma and Garcola in such quantities that the inhabitants who had returned to their homes have been obliged to leave again.

A strong wind, becoming this afternoon almost a tornado, prevented the departure of the British squadron which has been anchored in the bay of Naples.

The inhabitants of Ottajano, in spite of advice to the contrary, have decided to rebuild the village on its old site.

BAN ON SYMPATHETIC STRIKE

Judge Julian Mack of Chicago Circuit Court Declares It is Illegal.

CHICAGO, April 18.—Judge Julian W. Mack in the Cook county circuit court in a decision rendered today declared that the sympathetic strike is a form of boycott and that the boycott is illegal. Judge Mack's decision was rendered in granting an injunction to the National Stonecutters' society, restraining the officers and members of the Journeymen Stonecutters' Association of North America from interfering with members of the former organization.

For BOYS and GIRLS From SIX to SIXTY

MACKINTOSH'S TOFFEE

The Old English Candy

"More MACKINTOSH'S TOFFEE" is the cry of the children. Give them all they want. It's as healthful as it is delicious. It's good to grow on.

5c and 10c package. At all dealers.

John Mackintosh, - 78 Hudson St., New York

AMUSEMENT.

Boyd's WOODWARD & BURGESS, MANAGERS.

SUNDAY—MONDAY—TUESDAY

Geo. M. Cohan's Musical Hit

Little Johnny Jones

75—PEOPLE—75

Coming—Henrietta Crosman.

BURWOOD Nights, Sun. Mats, 10-25c Tues., Thurs., Sat., 10-20c.

THE WOODWARD STOCK CO.

This Afternoon, Tonight, All Week

MOTHS

Next Week—In the Palace of the King Souvenir Night May 7th—350th Performance.

CREIGHTON Orpheum

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MODERN VAUDEVILLE

Matinee Today Any Part of House 25c

Children 10c.

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Prices—10c, 25c, 50c.

CONCERT

THE MUSICAL ART SOCIETY, in aid of ALL SAINTS ORGAN FUND.

J. H. SIMMS, Director

assisted by

FOREST RUTHERFORD, Baritone

FRANK WILCZEK, Violinist

CHAS. S. HAVERSTOCK, Baritone

At First Christian Church

Tabernacle, 19th & Farnam Sts.

Thursday, April 19, 8:15 p.m.

ADMISSION 75c.

Tickets on sale at Hospe's.

Individual Chicken Pie Thursday Dinner —AT— The CALUMET

Good Food is the Secret of Health

In a Kernel of Wheat Nature Provides Every Necessary Food Element.

The human body constantly consumes the vital elements of which it is composed, just as fire consumes fuel. And, just as fire dies without fuel, so does the body die unless replenished with its elements.

There are fourteen of these essential elements, and as each is consumed the body must be replenished if life and strength are to be sustained. This is the secret of health.

The air supplies the oxygen which the body needs, but all the other elements must be derived from our food. These are just as important as oxygen, and we cannot exaggerate the importance of selecting food which provides all the nutrition so necessary to life and health.

Some foods contain nitrogen. These are tissue-building foods. Some foods contain carbon and hydrogen. These are force and heat-making foods. Some foods contain phosphorus, potash or others of the vital elements.

Nature has given us one food that contains all these elements of life. This is wheat, and when it is prepared as Malta-Vita, there is no other food so rich in all the nourishment needed by the body; no other so easily digested.

Malta-Vita is the whole of the best white wheat, thoroughly cooked and steamed, freely mixed with pure barley malt extract, then rolled into little wafer flakes and baked crisp and brown. The malt extract converts the starch of the cooked wheat into maltose, or malt sugar. Physicians recommend maltose, and Malta-Vita is rich in it.

Malta-Vita is always absolutely clean food and just as delicious as healthful. Try some today with milk, cream or fruit. You never tasted anything quite so good. Ready to eat. All grocers. Now 10 cents.

Terrific Javan Tidal Wave in 1867

A great calamity befell Java in 1867, when the towns of Anjer, Tjiringine and Telokbelong were destroyed by tidal waves caused by volcanic eruptions. All the lighthouses in the Sunda straits disappeared and where the mountain of Kramatan stood the sea found its bed. The loss of both Europeans and natives was enormous.

The disturbances started on the island of Kratatsoa, in the strait of Sunda, about fifteen miles off the coast of Java. The deep rumblings were distinctly audible at Surakerta and Batavia about forty-five and twenty-two miles away, respectively.

Little alarm was felt at first, but within a few hours showers of stones began to fall at Jonkjokerta, Surabaya and Serang. All through the night (August 28) showers of red-hot rocks and ashes fell, causing complete darkness in those towns.

On the next morning the disturbance had extended to beneath the waters of the strait and they were soon boiling and hissing violently, while great waves dashed upon the Javanese shores. Even as far away from the original point of disturbance as Madura the furious waves were lashed into mountains of foam as they came rolling in. The threatening rumblings gradually became more and more distinct and by noon the Mahd Meru, the largest of volcanoes of Java, was belching forth flames at an alarming rate. This eruption soon spread to the Gunung Tengger, the crater of which is four miles in width. Soon afterward a third of the forty-five craters of Java were either in active eruption or threatening.

Just before dusk the Gunung Guntur began to vomit up streams of white acid and sulphurous mud besides lava. Terrible showers of cinders followed, the matter being hurled in all dicertions. A sympathetic demonstration followed on the sea. The people were panic stricken. The loss of life was frightful and the devastation of property appalling. Fertile valleys, bearing coffee, rice and other products were rendered barren. In one portion of Batavia twenty-five Chinese lost their lives. About 800 Europeans and Americans were killed in the same city. At Bantam, 1,500 natives were drowned. Other towns on the island suffered a great loss of life.

Destruction of St. Pierre in 1902

The town of St. Pierre, Martinique, West Indies, was totally destroyed and surrounding country devastated by the eruption of the volcano, Mount Pelee, at 8 o'clock the morning of May 8, 1902. The total loss of life in St. Pierre was estimated at 30,000, only thirty persons escaping with their lives. Some estimates fixed the total death list of 40,000.

The volcano poured forth a stream of molten lava twenty feet high and half a mile wide. Its progress was appalling. Rushing down the dry bed of Riverre Blanche, it reached the sea. The force of the impact was such the sea receded for some 300 feet for miles around the western coast. Loud detonations followed at short, irregular intervals, so loud they were heard for 300 miles distant. At night the volcano crater was a mass of lurid flames, which shot up over the mountain, while all the time the cannonading continued at intervals on Tuesday and Wednesday. On Thursday morning, which was the 8th, it was relatively still. St. Pierre was, as usual, early astir and business was partly going.

About 7 o'clock a sort of whirl of steam, boiling mud and fire suddenly swept with incredible rapidity over the city and roadstead. At once the town was in a blaze. The fire seemed to run over all. The ships in the harbor were instantly canted over, began simultaneously to burn and sink in the sea, which was then a raging caldron. The whole reaction had taken place within less than twenty minutes of the eruption.

The sea for miles around was covered with the wreckage of the vessels sunk off St. Pierre at the time of the disaster. The heat from the smoking, lava-colored ruins at St. Pierre was suffocating and the stench from the corpse-strewn streets was awful. For some time after the eruption lava continued to pour down the mountain side in great volumes, accompanied by heavy peals of thunder and violent flashes of lightning.