THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

VOL. XXXVIII—NO. 166. OMAHA, WEDNESDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 30, 1908—TEN PAGES. SINGLE COPY TWO CENTS.

JUDGING THE CHICKS

Close of Second Day Sees Officials Busy with the Awards.

PATRONAGE IS PROVING

Arrangement of the Exhibits Better Than Last Year.

POULTRY RUNNING IN YARD

Gives the Entire Affair a Much More Natural Look.

DOG SHOW A GREAT ATTRACTION

Finest Exhibit Ever Made by an Omaha Kennel Club, Embracing Dogs of Almost Every Variety.

The close of the second day of the Trans-mississippi Poultry show saw the judges deep in their work of scoring the birds and the public giving the box office a generous patronage.

Show birds are now all in place and the opportunity to see them is better than at previous shows. The arrangement this year confines the concessions to a narrow bit of floor space and all the 30,000 square feet in the Auditorium and stage is given over to the show.

One new feature makes it possible to see many of the birds as they would look in a yard. Wire fencing has been pressed into service, and in neat pens along one side of the big show house the big geese and little ducks may be seen at such close range that it would be no difficult matter to "pick a fight" with a gander.

The ducks and geese, like the show dogs, are becoming so accustomed to the public that they make friends easily, and two of the geese started over the fence after a woman who had been particularly friendly with them, while one of the show dogs made a jump for a woman whose diamond spangled fingers had been run through his hair once or twice, with the result that there was a small white bunch of angora hair hanging by the neck with a chain and yelling for help.

From all indications the show will attract a big crowd this week. The dog show feature is much talked about, and it is probably the finest show ever given by a kennel club in Omaha, the dogs ranging from the canary bird size to the big St. Bernards.

Water Fowls Prominent.

The water fowl exhibit at the poultry show is attracting its share of attention. The classes are numerous and well filled and some of the specimens are wonders in their line. The Toulouse white and brown China geese, the Pekin, Rouen, Muscovy and Indian Runner ducks, the African geese and numerous others make the exhibit of high class. It is said that the exhibit of water fowl now on display at the Auditorium, is one of the largest ever made in the country, both in the number of birds and also in the number of classes shown.

Chickens will not be given away this year at the show as they were last year, the change being made from a humanitarian point of view.

"I will not give away chicks as I did last year, because I do not believe it humane to do so," said George H. Lee, maker of incubators. "The children who secure them do not properly care for them and most of them die. These chicks are from my best prize-winning stock and I don't want to have them improperly treated. The chicks will be sold this year at 25 cents each and the proceeds donated to the association. At the next show I will give a prize of $25 in gold for the best bird raised from those hatched in the show room this season. A home-made brooder, costing only a few cents and capable of successfully raising a half-dozen chicks is exhibited in the incubator section."

Hugo Brandeis' Bulldog.

The dog which Tuesday morning attracted most attention was the $1,000 brindle English bull which is shown by Hugo Brandeis. If that dog was really half as fierce as he looks it would be well for visitors to keep their distance. Many of the dogs did not arrive until Tuesday morning but they are now lined up in their wire cages on the benches and attract nearly as much attention as do the birds below. The dogs are on the stage. The St. Bernards and toy dogs will be judged by Judge Newlyn Tuesday night and Wednesday afternoon he will judge the collies, the pit bull terriers and the bull terriers. The all-round specials will be judged Wednesday evening.

Those exhibiting dogs in the kenne department are:

C. R. Jewell, Omaha; H. Hugo Brandeis, Mrs. C. Vincent, John Oller, William Miller, Mr. Morse, Miss Moore, Elenor McGilton, Adam Jamison, Henry Rechter, J. E. Fulner, J. P. Kepler, Morris Milder, Mrs. Charles Cox, W. Schneckenberger, Victor Niles, Guy Hamin, W. E. Parker, B. E. Bartholomew, E. P. Dutton, Edwin N. Greevy, C. E. Weimer, Elmer Sutton, W. T. Springmeyer, Leon Herz, Ira Knight, N. Storer, William Robinson, H. T. Flint, E. L. Potter, L. W. Trenica, E. Frahn, W. R. Harris, J. E. Gorman, Henry Russell, George Dyder, P. S. Ormond, Arthur Pickrel, John Lowe, Charles Casey, Fred Heyn W. G. Carpenter Max R. Whippel, Conrad Young, John Buck, E. B. Day.

LONG LIST OF EXHIBITORS

Nearly 175 Growers of Fancy Poultry Are There.

Nearly 175 growers of fancy poultry are exhibiting at the show and the birds have come from all sections of the country and are exhibited by those who make a business of raising high class chickens as well as those who have but a few of the higher standards. The list shows that the number in this section interested in the improvement of the standard of the birds is on the increase:

Jay Adams, Eagle, Neb.; Rev. A. B. Adams, Hamburg, Ia.; Frank A. Agnew, South Omaha; F. C. Ahlquist, Omaha; W. H. Ahlquist, Omaha; J. W. Alden, Papillion; Mr. and Mrs. E. R. Alexander, Omaha; Mrs. Katie Allen, Florence; N. Anderson, Omaha; Anderson & Combs, Pacific Junction, Ia.; John H. Atkinson, Pruman, Minn.; Aye Bros., Blair; A. H. Barks, Ansley, Neb.; J. W. Bartholomew, Tennant, Ia.; W. D. Barrett, Shelton, Neb.; W. Beahm, Omaha; Robert F. Bentel, Buck Grove, Ia.; Bixby & Bixby, Council Bluffs; Mrs. F. C. Black, Nebraska City; Rich Bobbitt, Thurman, Ia.; Jack Brackey, Chillicothe, Mo.; B. F. Bradley, Norway, Ia.; C. W. Brehm, Harvard, Neb.; P. A. Brehm, Harvard, Neb.; Sally Brengle, Omaha; Bennie Brodersen, Denison, Ia.; John Burth, Maynard, N. Y.; O. V. Byers

(Continued on Second Page.)

SUMMARY OF THE BEE

Wednesday, December 30, 1908.

1908 —DECEMBER— 1908

SUN.	MON.	TUE.	WED.	THU.	FRI.	SAT.
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

THE WEATHER.

FOR OMAHA, COUNCIL BLUFFS AND VICINITY—Fair and colder Wednesday.

FOR NEBRASKA—Fair and colder Wednesday.

FOR IOWA—Fair or snow Wednesday; colder Wednesday.

Temperature at Omaha yesterday:

Hour.	Deg.
5 a. m.	26
6 a. m.	35
7 a. m.	36
8 a. m.	37
9 a. m.	39
10 a. m.	41
11 a. m.	45
12 m.	49
1 p. m.	51
2 p. m.	54
3 p. m.	54
4 p. m.	54
5 p. m.	51
6 p. m.	47
7 p. m.	44
8 p. m.	41
9 p. m.	39

DOMESTIC.

A number of prominent engineers have been invited to accompany President-elect Taft to Panama. **Page 1**

The county treasurer of Sanborn county, South Dakota, was held up and robbed of $3,000 of the county money. **Page 1**

C. Burdette Bell killed C. C. Dury, whom he found with his wife in Denver **Page 1**

The right to call out federal troops has been raised in the proceedings against the striking miners in Kentucky. **Page 1**

General Bell has issued new orders governing the punishment for desertion from the army. **Page 1**

FOREIGN.

Miss Szponder, who was abducted at Winnipeg with a priest, has returned. **Page 1**

The Atlantic fleet has entered the Red Sea. **Page 1**

A band of supporters of President Castro and adherants of Gomez had a battle on the coast of Venezuela, in which the adherants of Gomez were defeated. **Page 1**

The loss of life from the earthquake in Italy and Sicily will reach the appaling number of 70,000, and the property loss cannot yet be estimated. **Page 1**

NEBRASKA.

Experts from Department of Agriculture address Johnson county farmers on road building and agriculture. **Page 3**

Two unidentifed men try to hold up a boy near Gibbon, but the youth whips up his horse and escapes in spite of shots fired at him. **Page 3**

LOCAL.

Combination of plow firms means organization of big company in Omaha. **Page 10**

Arthur D. Brandeis sells residence to Senator J. H. Millard for $65,000. **Page 10**

Fruit contracts made by H. D. Foye insure that Omaha will be greatest center of distribution in the United States. **Page 7**

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL.

Live stock markets. **Page 9**

Grain markets. **Page 9**

Stocks and bonds. **Page 9**

MOVEMENTS OF OCEAN STEAMSHIPS.

Port.	Arrived.	Sailed.
NEWYORK	Zeeland	
NEWYORK	Slavonia	
BOSTON	Canopic	Iberian.
GENOA	Cretic	
GENOA	Regina d'Italia	
LIVERPOOL	Corsican	
LIVERPOOL	Celtic	
GLASGOW	Siberian	Corinthian.
ANTWERP	Finland	Samland.
CHERBOURG		St. Louis.
MOVILLE	Columbia	

STATE BUYS ALL THE BONDS

Nebraska is Awarded the Entire Million Dollar Court House Issue.

The county commissioners Tuesday afternoon awarded the entire issue of court house bonds in the sum of $1,000,000 to the state of Nebraska on its bid of par, the county to have the privilege to issue the bonds and collect money on them as needed.

Four other bids were presented for the entire issue, all by Chicago firms. These bidders offered premiums, but the terms of the contracts offered made it mandatory on the county to issue bonds on demand of the company buying. Should the bonds be issued when the county did not need the money, money would be lost through interest payments. The commissioners therefore figured that the bid of the state was the best. The commissioners also hope to get a still lower bid from the state.

WINTHROP SUCCEEDS BACON

Secretary of State-to-Be Asks Massachusetts Man Into His New Office.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—Beekman Winthrop of Massachusetts, assistant secretary of the treasury, today was offered and accepted the office of first assistant secretary of state under the incoming administration, succeeding Robert Bacon of New York, who in January next is expected to temporarily succeed Elihu Root upon the latter's retirement. The tender today was made with the consent of President-elect Taft by Senator Knox, whose selection as secretary of state was announced several days ago.

PETER MARQUARDT KILLED

Prominent Odd Fellow is Run Down by Switch Engine at Madison, South, Dakota.

MADISON, S. D., Dec. 29.—Peter Marquardt, past grand master of the Grand Lodge of Odd Fellows of South Dakota, was run over by a switch engine and killed in the railroad yards today.

Wilson Taken to Penitentiary.

HURON, S. D., Dec. 29.—(Special.)—Monday morning, Sheriff Young went to Sioux Falls with George Wilson, convicted in circuit court here of forgery and sentenced by Judge Taylor to six months in the penitentiary at Sioux Falls. A stay of judgment has been granted in the Rasch case. The sentence of the court was that Rasch be confined in the penitentary at Sioux Falls for a period of seven years seven months for rape, but he will not be removed to the penitentiary until a later date.

AMERICAN CONSUL MISSING

Arthur F. Cheney Probably Victim of Earthquake.

RELIEF SUBSCRIPTIONS OPENED

American Red Cross at Once Tenders Its Services—Italian Officers in New York Issue Appeal for Funds.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—Arthur F. Cheney, American consul at Messina, and his wife are supposed to have been killed by the earthquake, according to a dispatch received by the State department tonight from Vice Consul Stuart Lupton.

News of the devastation wrought by earthquake in Italy was received here with profound interest. The tremors were recorded on the seismograph instruments of both the weather bureau and the coast and geodetic survey, and the weather bureau officials had figured out almost with mathematical precision the section of the globe where the great force of the shock was felt, but there was nothing to indicate the tremendous volume of the disaster, as brought out by later press reports, showing the enormous loss of life and property damage. The State department and Italian embassy enxiously await advices regarding the catastrophe.

The American National Red Cross today sent out telegraphic requests to all of its branches for relief funds, to be applied to the sufferers from the earthquake in southern Italy. The Italian Red Cross society being so fully organized, it will not be necessary for the American society to do more than to send money contributions, which will be done as promptly as possible.

Following is the text of the president's message to the king of Italy:

"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."

The American National Red Cross today sent a telegram over the signature of its president, William H. Taft, to the Italian Red Cross at Rome, in the following language:

"The American Red Cross desires to tender to the Italian Red Cross its profound sympathy because of the terrible earthquake in Italy and Calabaria. An appeal has been issued to the American Red Cross for contributions for the benefit of the sufferers."

The Red Cross society also requested the State department to extend to the American ambassador expressions of sympathy from the American society to the Italian Red Cross and to inquire to what extent relief measures will be necessary.

On the occasion of the eruption of Vesuvius $12,000 was sent to Italy by the American society.

There are no American war vessels in the vicinity of southern Italy. The Scorpion, a converted yacht, which is at Constantinople, is nearer the scene of the disaster than any other American naval vessel.

Subscription Opened in New York.

NEW YORK, Dec. 29.—The news of the earthquake in southern Italy with its appalling loss of life was received in several Italian colonies this evening with every evidence of distress. Of the 500,000 or more Italians here, fully 200,000 are from the stricken district. Thousands upon thousands have families, relatives and friends in Calabria and Sicily. Many hastened to the offices of the Italian consul general or the various Italian newspapers, only to have their worst fears confirmed. New York City has two extensive quarters given over to Italians almost exclusively, besides many smaller ones. The consul general after a conference with leading Italians, issued a call for subscriptions in the following statement:

Subscriptions for the relief of the victims of the earthquake in Sicily and Calabria are officially opened at the consulate general of Italy, 226 Lafayette street, New York City, at the Italian Chamber of Commerce, 203 Broadway, and at the office of the delegate of the Italian Red Cross, 69 Wall street. The amount of these subscriptions will be sent at once to the Calabria Red Cross in Rome, whose efficient relief work in past calamities has been universally recognized.

Count Massiglia in speaking of the call for relief, said he would do all he could to succor the work. "I shall be glad," he said, "to receive contributions from any one who may wish to aid the victims of the disaster. At the time of the big earthquake a relief organization was founded under the direction of the Italian Chamber of Commerce, the Italian Red Cross and other Italian organizations in New York City and throughout the country, and a similar plan will doubtless now be followed."

The Italian Chamber of Commerce met late this afternoon under the chairmanship of its president, Luigi Folari, to consider plans for raising money for the sufferers.

Hard Blow to Trade.

President Folari, in an address, said that of the $50,000,000 of imports received here from Italy, $10,000,000 came from the affected earthquake district. The disaster would be a hard blow to trade. Signor Folari also said there was considerable immigration from Calabria and Sicily in 1905, following the earthquake of that year. He said he expected a new exodus of the frightened people now, but on a much larger scale.

Two Italian newspapers, the Ballettito Della Sera and the rPogressio, each headed a subscription list started in their columns by subscribing $500 each. Two other Italian newspapers, L'Usaldo and Telegraso, advised their readers to send contributions direct to the Red Cross, explaining that the money would reach its destination much quicker in that way.

All of the Italian newspapers issued extra editions today, giving translations of the cable dispatches brought to this country to describe the horror.

The American National Red Cross, of which President-elect Taft is the head, has offered its services in co-operating with the Italian Red Cross. The New York state branch has already issued a call for aid.

Mayor Des Planches, the Italian ambassador to the United States, is expected to reach this city late tonight from Montreal.

Though the regular Mediterranean tourist season had not yet started there doubtless were hundreds of Americans in Calabria and Sicily, and there are grave fears for their safety. Captain Charles C. Fenmer, formerly in the federal service here, and his wife have been traveling in Italy and ten days ago word was received from them that they were about to leave Rome for Regni.

When Congress Again Convenes

From the Washington Herald.

SPRECKELS WILL IS FILED

Late Sugar King Leaves Life Interest in Property to Widow.

ESTATE WORTH FIFTY MILLION

At Death of Mrs. Spreckels It is to Be Divided Among Claus A. and Rudolph Spreckels and Mrs. John Ferris.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 29.—The will of the late Claus Spreckels, which was executed in New York May 11, 1906, was filed today with the county clerk. Under its terms the widow, Anna Christina Spreckels, is given a life interest in the estate which, after her death, is to be divided among her three children, Claus A. Spreckels, Rudolph Spreckels and Mrs. John Ferris of Kingswood, England, formerly Miss Emma Spreckels. The testament recites that the other two sons, John D. and Adolph, have been liberally provided for during the life of the testator. The value of the estate is not given, but it has been estimated as high as $50,000,000.

Mrs. Anna Spreckels, who is now 78 years old, will receive the net income of the properties while she lives, after which the three legatees will share alike, except for the provisions that Mrs. Ferris' portion is to revert to the estate in case she dies without children before the death of her mother. In the event of Claus A. or Rudolph Spreckels dying before their mother, his share of the deceased is to be equally divided among the surviving children, Claus A. Spreckels and Rudolph H. Spreckels are appointed executors of the estate without bond and trustees with absolute power to make such disposition of the properties as they see fit without being liable for any losses that may be sustained.

The witnesses to the will are William W. Cook, a prominent lawyer of New York; Thomas B. Jones and Richard T. Thompson, the latter two of Brooklyn. The will was filed for probate by Rudolph Spreckels and Charles A. Wheeler, his attorney, together with a petition for probate.

HUSBAND KILLS HIS FRIEND

C. Burdete Bell Shoots C. C. Dury, Jr., in Denver for Enticing His Wife.

DENVER, Dec. 29.—Burdette Edward Bell shot and killed C. Cuvier Dury, a vaudeville artist, here today for enticing his wife away from her home while he was working at Laramie. Bell spent some time locating the couple and entered their apartments with the purpose of committing the deed.

CINCINNATI, O., Dec. 29.—Charles Cuvier Dury, jr., who was shot and killed by C. Burdette Bell in Denver yesterday, was the son of Prof. Charles Dury of this city, an ornithologist, who has a national reputation. Prof. Dury is taxidermist of the Smithsonian institute of the University of Cincinnati and has written many books on bird lore.

Charles Cuvier Dury was 25 years old and before leaving this city was regarded as an amateur actor of ability. He was married four years ago and left with his wife for Denver two years later.

Bell, who is charged with the shooting of Dury, was married in Cincinnati two years ago. He had a responsible position with a laundry while in this city.

FOURTEEN YEARS FOR RUEF

Sentence on Convicted Grafter at San Francisco is Pronounced by Judge Lawler.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 29.—Abraham Ruef, former political boss of San Francisco, was today sentenced to fourteen years in the state penitentiary at San Quentin. Sentence was pronounced by Judge William P. Lawler, who presided over Ruef's trial on the charge of bribing a member of the Schmitz Board of Supervisors in the award of an overhead trolley franchise to the United Railroads. The trial, which ended with a conviction on December 19, was one of the most celebrated in the history of the city.

MISS SZPONDER COMES BACK

South Omaha Girl Taken Away by Priest Returns to Home in Winnipeg.

WINNIPEG, Man., Dec. 29.—Miss Seraphin Szponder, who, it is claimed, went away with a Polish priest, has been brought back to this city and is now in the care of the Young Women's Christian association. The priest has also returned.

OUNTY TREASURER HELD UP

Mike Meier of Woonsocket Compelled to Hand Over $3,000 of County Funds.

MITCHELL, S. D., Dec. 29.—(Special Telegram.)—Mike Meier, the county treasurer of Sanborn county, was held up at Woonsocket last night and robbed of over $3,000 of the county's money. Late in the evening Mr. Meier went to his office in the court house and opened the vault doors. He was followed by two men who wore masks. Each presented a revolver at the person of Meier and demanded that he give all the cash he had on hand. They went into the vault with him and he was forced to turn over $3,000.

The men left Meier in the vault and closed the door on him and they were able to get quite a start on possible pursuers. The door was not locked on Meier and he was able finally to open it. Raising a window, he shouted for help.

The men are described as being one tall and the other short. Mr. Meier has been the treasurer of the county for the last four years and his term of office expired with the closing of the year.

The county commissioners of Sanborn county will meet tomorrow to take some action with reference to offering a reward for the robbers who held up County Treasurer Meier last night for $4,500. Mr. Meier stated that he did not believe the money to be unsafe in the county safe, which was burglar proof, and the county money was insured against robbers.

Reports were rife on the streets of Woonsocket today that the robbery was a fake and that there was something wrong with the county's money, and that the scheme was concocted just as the treasurer was retiring from his position at the close of his term of office. There is not the slightest foundation for the statements that are made. Mr. Meier is regarded by the business men of the city as an honest and reliable man, and it is known that his books have balanced at the various settlements. The business men place the utmost reliance in his integrity and honor. That the robbery was a legitimate one is shown by the robbers locking Mr. Meier in the vault. A window in the vault enabled him to secure assistance from the outside. There was no one in the building at the time of the robbery.

PUNISHMENT LIMIT CHANGED

General Bell Issues Orders Fixing Three Years for Simple Desertion from Army.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 29.—General Bell, chief of staff, has issued general orders to the army promulgating an executive order establishing limits of punishments prescribed for desertion varied according to whether the soldier surrenders or was apprehended, his length of service and duration of desertion. The limit of punishment now fixed for simple desertion is three years with increased limits for previous convictions and when in execution of a conspiracy or in the presence of hostile Indians or unlawful assemblage. Increased punishment is prescribed for selling or losing clothing, accoutrements, etc., and also for absence without leave. Slight modifications are made in the requirements in the matter of previous convictions to justify dishonorable discharge for minor offenses.

WESTERN MATTERS AT CAPITAL

Number of Appointments Announced in the Railway Mail Service.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—(Special Telegram.)—Paul L. Aunbright of Columbus Junction, Charles Sessler of Washington, Emil R. Jesse of Readlyn, Frank E. McGuigan of Kalona, Fred O. Weise of Otaltissa, Ia., William L. Murphy of Cheyenne, Wyo., P. L. Murphy of Davis Ranch and Alonzo R. Elliott of Cheyenne, Wyo., have been appointed railway mail clerks.

Miss Norma Waddell of Lincoln has been appointed laboratory aid in connection with the Agricultural department, located at Lincoln.

FRANCE EXPRESSES SYMPATHY

President Fallieres Sends Message to Italian Premier on Great Calamity.

PARIS, Dec. 29.—President Fallieres has sent a telegram of condolence on the catastrophe that has visited southern Italy to King Victor Emmanuel. Premier Clemenceau has sent a similar message to the Italian premier, while M. Pichon, the French foreign minister, has communicated his sympathy to the Italian minister of foreign affairs, Signor Tittoni.

LEGISLATORS ARE COMING IN

Those on Hand at Present Principally Candidates for Speaker.

ASPIRANTS FOR CLERKSHIP HERE

Some of the Democrats Propose to Make Bryan Show His Hand and Draft the Platform Bills.

(From a Staff Correspondent.)

LINCOLN, Dec. 29.—(Special.)—The legislative season is at hand and the early birds are on the ground. Though they are few in number they are widely scattered, there being a candidate for speaker at the Lincoln, the Capitol and the Royal hotels and two candidates for chief clerk at the Lindell. The disinterested members are not yet on the ground.

Taylor from Hitchcock and Taylor from Custer are two of the same name after the speakership; Henry of Holt is another who came in last night and Kelley of Furnas is here doing a stunt all his own. He is a candidate for speaker and cares more about having platform pledges kept than he does about presiding over the house.

"I am here to see that every platform pledge is kept," said Mr. Kelley. We went before the people with specific promises and woe to the man who dares sidestep that platform."

The early birds are here simply that they may catch onto the legislators as they come into town. None claims a cinch on the job and each is talking about the democratic platform and other platitudes without getting down to anything very specific.

Henry of Holt is prepared to tell the people that as speaker he will not use his influence to throttle any legislation or to pass any bills, meaning particularly the county option bill, if one is introduced. He will refer that bil lto the committee of the whole and let crowd settle it without handing it over to any smaller committee.

Taylor from Custer county has a reputation as an organizer and he expects to rally considerable strength from the members in the east end of the state at least. Taylor from Hitchcock expects to do the same thing.

But the only definite thing there is known about the situation is that the house has forty-four farmers, or men who are engaged in the business of agriculture, and it is possible a movement may be started to organize these farmers in order to control the organization of the house.

Those candidates for speaker who are here realize that the nine votes from Douglas would help out a great deal in selecting a speaker, but not one seems to be counting on any from the big county, though it is talked that Clark of Richardson cannot get all of them.

Trenmore Cone of Saunders and Henry Richmond are both on the ground and both are working hard for the place as chief clerk. Cone has had the advantage of having been out in the state in advance of Richmond, or before Richmond got into the game, but Richmond insists that he will be able to take care of himself at the caucus. Both are quartered at the Lindell.

Bryan Must Show His Hand.

Mr. Bryan must show his hand. From generalities he must come down to details. In other words, he is going to be asked to draft some of the important measures which he talked about during the campaign. That is settled. Especially will he be asked to write the draft of the bill providing for the physical valuation of railroads and other public utility corporations.

All of which grew out of the fact that Mr. Bryan recently called a meeting of prominent democrats at Fairview and read the riot act to them about what the legislature must do and must not do. He told these democrats that every platform pledge must be kept, including the enactment of a law providing for the guarantee of bank deposits and "immediate" payment to depositors in case of a bank failure. He gave no chance for argument on the part of his underlings. His own decision in the matter settled it.

On this proposition Mr. Bryan and some of the leaders in his party will split. Dr. P. I. Hill will not stand for the "immediate" payment of loss and his position is that "prompt" payment should be sufficient.

So republicans who lost out in the recent election will have the pleasure of watching a scrap between Mr. Bryan on the one side and Dr. Hasll leading othe other—unless Mr. Bryan decides to surrender.

And then Mr. Bryan will be asked to fix up that physical valuation bill and to take the responsibility of its enactment

(Continued on Second Page.)

APPALLING LOSS OF LIFE

Over Sixty Thousand Persons Killed by Earthquake in Italy.

THREE PROVINCES DEVASTATED

Buildings in Many Towns of Calabria Crumble from Shock.

HIGH AND LOW DIE IN RUINS

Prefect of Reggio Crushed by Falling Stones of His Palace.

HOMELESS POPULACE IS CRAZED

Men and Women Wander Helplessly Into Unknown Dangers.

MOUNT AETNA BECOMES ACTIVE

Detonations from Volcano Add to Terrors of the People.

KING AND QUEEN HASTEN SOUTH

Martial Law Declared and Troops Hurried to Scene—Pope Pius Gives Large Sum for Relief.

BULLETINS.

ROME, Dec. 29.—The minister of marina at 5 o'clock this afternoon received a wireless dispatch estimating the dead at Messeni at 50,000. No news has yet been received from Reggio.

Reports have just been received from two other towns in Calabria, Cassano and Cosenza. Cassano is said to have suffered 1,000 dead, while the wounded number 500. At Cosenza 500 dead people already have been taken from the ruins

Cassano has 6,700 people, while Cosenza is the center of a community with a population of 25,000.

ROME, Dec. 29.—South Italy and the island of Sicily have been visited by an appalling calamity, the extent of which cannot yet be grasped. An earthquake yesterday morning wrecked city after city and obliterated smaller towns and villages without number.

Then a tidal wave swept across the strait of Messina and added to the horror, drowning the people in their helplessness and panic. Fire came to complete the work of destruction. Flames broke out in the devastated cities and countless numbers of wounded men, women and children were burned to death.

Any adequate estimate of the total casualties is as yet quite impossible, but the Rome Tribuna places the number at between 60,000 and 70,000.

City of Messina Wrecked.

ROME, Dec. 29.—The disaster in the province of Calabria and the island of Sicily has today assumed staggering proportions. Each successive report received from the stricken region makes it more apparent than the first stories of the widespread destruction were little, if any exaggerated. Messina alone reports 12,000 victims, but it is feared that this is only a partial list of the dead and wounded. Reports are coming in from other towns giving estimates of dead therein from 500 up to several thousand.

Reggio still remains in its tragic isolation. It is impossible to get word from the stricken city, and the silence gives rise to the most fearful apprehensions. News has come from Messina, eight miles north of Reggio, but no reliable estimate of the dead there has been made.

Vandalism of the worst kind has broken put and the government had adopted the most energetic and severe measures for its repression. Robbers and looters are shot on sight.

The prison at Messina collapsed. Some of the prisoners were killed, but the survivors made their escape and joined the Hooligans who were sacking the city. Such confusion reigned that the robbers met with no resistance. The local chief of police lies dead in the rooms of his office.

Commander of Troops Killed.

The barracks at Messina were demolished. The commander of the troops was killed outright and there are many victims among the enlisted men. The government last night sent General Fiera Di Cossatto, an army corps commander, to take full charge of the troops in the devasted territory. One of the first measures will be to declare martial law.

The robbers pillaged the ruins of shattered buildings, and even stole clothing and valuables from the corpses of the victims. They were not deterred by the flames that broke out in several sections of the city, but took advantage of the light for their vandalism. The night in Messina was one of horror, indescribable fire, robbery, dead and dying on every side, the city in the utmost confusion, and the people panic stricken and under a spell of terror.

Troops began to pour into Messina last night and this morning a number of steamers arrived from peninsula with soldiers on board. Patrols were at once organized and efforts made to bring order into the situation. Bands of citizens were formed and helped heroically in the work of rescue. Many courageous acts were performed by soldiers and citizens alike, and in some cases the rescuers themselves lost their lives in trying to help others.

Order Partially Established.

Toward morning several of the worst fires had been extinguished, the looting was under partial control, and comparatively order has been established. Everything possible is being done to succor the wounded, but the relief measures are still utterly inadequate owing to the immensity of the disaster.

The finest palaces, churches and theaters of Messina are heaps of ruins. Countless dead bodies are scattered through the wreckage, and their disposition will doubtless bring pestilence to add to the horrors of the situation.

The devastation over the entire district were more or less complete. No part of the province of Reggio De Calabria escaped. The disturbance was most severe