

TEN THOUSAND PERSONS DEAD AS RESULT OF EARTHQUAKE IN ITALY

ENTIRE TOWNS DESTROYED AND THOUSANDS DIE UNDER RUINS OF THEIR OWN HOMES

Twelve Thousand People Dead and Twenty Thousand Injured as a Result of Terrific Quake That Extends Clear Across Italy and for Three Hundred Miles North and South Through the Country—Appalling

SHOCK THE STRONGEST FELT IN ROME IN MORE THAN A HUNDRED YEARS, IS REPORT

Eight Thousand People Lose Lives in One Town Whose Original Population Only Ten Thousand—Observatory on Mount Vesuvius Damaged—Panic General in the Territory of Seismic Disturbance.

Rome, January 13. — Italy has been visited by an earthquake of wide extent, which, according to the latest advices, has resulted in the death of 12,000 and injury to possibly 20,000 more in towns and villages destroyed.

The shock was the strongest Rome has felt in more than a hundred years.

The town of Avezzano, in the Abruzzi department, 63 miles east of Rome, has been levelled to the ground, and here 8,000 persons are reported to have been killed.

In many small towns surrounding Rome buildings were partially wrecked, while at Naples a panic occurred and houses fell at Caserta, a short distance to the east.

From below Naples in the south to Ferrera in the north, a distance of more than 300 miles, and across almost the width of the country, the undulatory movement continued for a considerable period.

In Rome it was thought at first two shocks had occurred, but the seismographic instruments in the observatories showed there was only one, which, beginning at 7:55 o'clock in the morning, lasted from 22 to 30 seconds.

In the capital itself so far as is known there was no loss of life, but a great deal of damage was done, churches and statues suffering most. For a time the people were stricken with fear and there was a veritable panic in hospitals, monasteries and convents.

Buildings on both sides of the Porta del Popolo, the north entrance to Rome, threatened to fall, and the eagle decorating the gate crashed to the ground. The obelisk in St. Peter's square was shaken and badly damaged, while the statue of St. John Lateran and the statues of the Apostles surrounding the Basilica are in danger of collapsing. The famous colonnade decorating St. Peter's square was lowered four feet, and the adjacent house, once occupied by the sisters of Pope Pius X, was badly cracked.

Owing to the wide extent of the disturbance, and its evident terrible consequences, the actual effects are not at present known. Communications are cut off. The fortified city of Aquila is isolated, but it is reported several villages in that region were destroyed. Likewise, Potenza, capital of the province of the same name, on the eastern declivity of the Apennines, which has a population of nearly 20,000, has been isolated. In 1857 this town was almost destroyed by an earthquake.

Father Alfani, director of the observatory at Valle di Pompeii, the noted seismologist, has sent the following telegram to Rome:

"The earthquake registered by our apparatus appears to have been most disastrous for a radius of more than 100 miles. Probably its center was the province of Potenza. Meanwhile, communications with Potenza are interrupted, and a grave disaster there is feared."

ANIC AT ROME

Quake Lasted for Many Seconds and People Badly Frightened.

Rome, Jan. 13.—A terrific earthquake, the strongest ever felt in Rome, occurred early today. It lasted several seconds and caused a serious panic, people everywhere rushing from their houses in terror. Many buildings were damaged by the shock. The dome of the Church of St. Charles Catinari was cracked. A large piece of cornice of the Jesuit church of St. Ignatius fell with a crash, adding to the fright of persons in the neighborhood.

Collapsing in many of the houses fell, number of persons being injured in that manner.

A statue at the Basilica of St. John the Baptist occupied a position visible from many parts of Rome, tumbled down and was shattered on the steps of the edifice.

Disturbance Severe. Street car lines were forced to suspend operations. As details began to arrive it was

apparent the disturbance in the province of Rome and the Abruzzi had been felt severely. At Montetondo eight persons were killed, two wounded. At Zagarolo the dome of a church fell; at Galliano part of the cathedral was wrecked; at Veroli two persons were killed and two injured. At Tivoli one person was killed. At Poggio Navio five houses collapsed and at Poggio Navio one person was killed and several were injured.

There is no communication with the ancient fortified city of Aquila in the Abruzzi, owing to poor action of the telephone and telegraph service. It is reported, however, that several villages were destroyed in that vicinity. At Torre Cajetani 37 miles east of Rome, almost the entire village was destroyed; at Arnara the municipal building collapsed.

From numerous places calls for physicians are reaching Rome. Pope Benedict was reciting the thanksgiving after the morning mass when the shock occurred. The pontiff was unharmed.

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VICK TAKES STAND IN SULLIVAN CASE

Probe of Charges Against the Dominican Minister Resumed

UNFIT FOR THE POST

Walker W. Vick Tells Board at New York Why He Thinks Sullivan Unfit—Appointed by Influence of Interests.

New York, Jan. 13.—Walker W. Vick, former receiver of customs at Santo Domingo, resumed the stand today at the inquiry into his charges against James N. Sullivan, American minister to the Dominican Republic, and told why he regarded Sullivan unfit for the post.

Big financial interests, Vick alleged, were instrumental in having Sullivan appointed. Vick today declared that it was a common report in Santo Domingo that Frank J. R. Mitchell, president of the Banco Nacional there, had previous knowledge that Sullivan was to be appointed.

After Vick's appointment to the customs post, the witness said Mitchell and Sullivan made insistent demands that the depository of the customs funds be changed from a private bank to the Banco Nacional, which was regarded as an American institution friendly to the Dominican government.

Vick said he finally yielded and deposited \$38,000 of special government funds in the Banco Nacional in October, 1913. The Washington government gave tentative approval for 60 days to this transfer, but later, the witness said, he cabled the Department of Insular Affairs that a thorough investigation should be made.

Several incidents. Vick's opinion that Sullivan was unfit was not entirely due, he said, to his belief that the minister had been too closely identified with the Banco Nacional officials, but was based on an accumulation of incidents. On one occasion, Vick said he was told by Joseph Tumulty, secretary to President Wilson:

"If what we hear is true, Sullivan ought to be fired. It looks as if Gray put something over on us."

"Who is Gray?" the witness was asked.

"John G. Gray, also of the Naco National," the witness said.

The witness said he learned that Continued on Page Eight

ALL OFFICERS ALL PARTIES SAME DAY

Legalized Primary Bill Introduced by Senator McNeely

BIBLE KISSING DEBATE

Bill to Abolish Passes Senate on Second Reading—State Dog Tax Bill Introduced—Economy Resolution Adopted.

(Special Star Telegram.)

Raleigh, N. C., Jan. 13.—The first legalized primary bill of the session was offered in the Senate today by Senator McNeely, of Union county. It provides for primaries for all parties on a common day and for all officers, the State to bear the expense of the primary for all State and legislative officers and the county for the county officers. The two highest of each party are to run in a second primary two weeks later in cases of failure to nominate in the first primary.

Nearly an hour was consumed with debate on a bill to repeal requirement to kiss the Bible in administering oaths. It finally passed second reading by a close vote and went over for final reading on objection being lodged and inability of friends of the bill to suspend the rules.

Representative J. H. Currie, of Cumberland, featured the day in the House with a bill to impose a tax on dogs throughout the State.

Representatives Galloway and Laughlinhouse offered a joint bill to abolish the homestead exemption by constitutional amendment.

The Senate passed the MacRae resolution today providing a joint standing committee on consolidation of private and public local bills for great economy and saving of time for the Assembly.

A lively discussion was had on the resolution to purchase 18 sets of Pell's Revisal at \$15 per set for use of the House and Senate. An amendment by Michael to increase to 20 sets was voted down and the resolution passed. There was sharp criticism of a hundred or more sets heretofore purchased having been allowed to be "purloined."

Representative Currie featured the House session with a repeated demand that no local bills be rushed through Continued on Page Eight

AUSTRIAN FOREIGN MINISTER RESIGNS

Was One of the Main Factors in War on Serbia.

HUNGARIAN IS NAMED

Hungarian Minister Appointed to Succeed Retiring Foreign Minister. Diplomatic Europe Surprised at the Move.

Vienna, Jan. 13, via London.—The retirement of the Austrian foreign minister, Count von Berchtold, was announced today by the Vienna Fremdenblatt. It published this statement:

"Count von Berchtold, who for a long while desired to retire and who had asked the Emperor to relieve him of his office, renewed the request. The Emperor, recognizing the important personal reasons moving the foreign minister to take the step, has granted his request."

"Count von Berchtold will be succeeded by the Hungarian minister, Baron Stephen Burian von Rajecz."

Count von Berchtold was one of the main factors in the situation which led to the Austrian declaration of war on Serbia. On several occasions recently he has been reported unofficially that he would resign. The appointment of a Hungarian to succeed him in control of Austrian foreign affairs is believed to indicate that henceforth Hungary will assume a more prominent place in shaping the policy of the dual monarchy during the war.

ANNOUNCED IN BERLIN.

Foreign Minister of Austria Had Personal Reasons for Move.

Berlin, Jan. 13. (By Wire to Sayville.) A statement issued by the official press bureau today:

"The Austrian Emperor has agreed to the resignation of Count von Berchtold, minister of foreign affairs, which was tendered for important personal reasons."

"Count von Berchtold's successor has been appointed. He is the Hungarian minister of foreign affairs, Baron Stephen Burian, a son-in-law of General Baron Pejerian, ex-Premier of Hungary. Baron Burian formerly was minister of finance and chief of administration in Herzegovina."

"The change in the Austrian premiership came unexpectedly."

DIPLOMATIC SENSATION.

Retirement of Foreign Minister and Appointment of Hungarian Surprised.

London, Jan. 13.—Announcement from Berlin published also in the Vienna Fremdenblatt that Count von Berchtold, the Austro-Hungarian Minister of Foreign Affairs, had resigned and has been succeeded by Baron Stephen Burian, has caused a sensation in European diplomatic circles.

Count von Berchtold, who was responsible for the note to Serbia which precipitated the war, on a number of occasions had asked Emperor Francis-Joseph to relieve him of office. But unsettled conditions which followed the assassination of Emperor Franz Ferdinand made this impossible. Anxious as he was to retire, it was not dreamed he would do so while the war was in progress, for it was considered this might suggest that his policy had fallen into disfavor.

More significant than the count's resignation is the announcement that he is succeeded by a Hungarian. This move, while as one with Austria in regard to the principle of the war, has shown dissatisfaction with the manner in which it has been prosecuted. While Austro-Hungarian troops have been utilized to prevent a Russian invasion of Germany, and even have been employed against France, Hungary has been left open to invasion.

Count Tisza, the Hungarian premier, has expressed this dissatisfaction, and finding that his complaints were not heard at Vienna took them to the German Emperor. Although it was said that his interview with the Kaiser the interests of Hungary were given more attention, Count Tisza did not stop his agitation and in a speech on New Year's day complained that Hungary's position had not been fully recognized. Insisting on harmony between Hungary and Austria and Germany, he said pointedly that Hungary must assume the place it deserved in consequence of its strength, its active energy and the fact that all its interests, aspirations and desires were in complete accord and in true sympathy with the interests of the monarchy.

Viennese newspapers took Count Tisza to task, one, Die Zeitung, saying it was impossible to reply on account of the censorship. The appointment of Baron Burian suggests, however, that the Emperor will give Hungary a greater voice.

Baron Burian at one time was Austro-Hungarian minister of finance, and latterly he has been Hungarian minister to the royal court, evidence that he is in royal favor.

ACTIVITY AGAIN IS EVIDENT THROUGHOUT ALL OF EUROPE MANY BATTLES ARE RAGING

WILSON'S SPEECH A MATTER OF DEBATE

Republican Senators Attack the Administration.

WILLIAMS DEFENDS IT

One of the Liveliest Debates of Present Congress Takes Place on Floor of Senate—Cummins Resolution Started Argument.

Washington, Jan. 13.—One of the liveliest debates of the present Congress stirred the Senate today when Republican leaders launched a vigorous attack on President Wilson's Indianapolis speech, the administration's Mexican policy, and Democratic legislation. Democrats met the attack with praise for the President and a prediction of his reelection.

The debate was precipitated over Senator Cummins' resolution asking the President to indicate what the government proposed to do with Mexican customs collected during the occupation of Vera Cruz. Action on the resolution was postponed until tomorrow.

Senator John Sharp Williams, one of those who replied to Republican criticism of the administration, declared with emphasis that "President Wilson would be renominated and reelected for the Presidency," because "the American people have found him not only able to take the place of men with whom they were quarreling, but good enough to stand in his own stead."

Broadside Attack. Senator Cummins voiced a wish that President Wilson could be confined more closely to "the exercise of his constitutional power."

Senator Borah made a general broadside attack on the administration. He declared President Wilson's statement to be "a masterpiece of political expediency" and "a deep bitterness to men, who should dare to break the solidarity of the Democratic team for any purpose or any motive," voiced "the sole and only principle on which any corrupt political machine ever was organized or put into existence." It was comparable, he said, to the utterances of "Tom Taggart, of Indiana, to his followers, 80 of whom pleaded guilty yesterday to the crime of political corruption" to "the orders issued by Murphy to his satellites in Tammany Hall to follow the dictate of the captain regardless of the dictates of conscience or judgment."

"It is a remarkable speech," said Senator Borah. "Its purpose and purport can not be mistaken or misunderstood. It is a most virulent attack upon one of the great political parties of this country by the chief magistrate of the nation, a party in whose traditions millions of his countrymen take great pride and in whose policies they devoutly and patriotically believe. It is not challenges the wisdom of its leaders, but it assails the intelligence and patriotism of the rank and file. All this is done at a time when our country is engaged in a struggle for its very patriotism. The people were not prepared for such a speech at such a time."

Accept Wilson's Challenge. "Mr. President," he said, "I accept the challenge. While opposing no legislation which we deem for the public good, we will hold ourselves perfectly free to oppose in all proper ways, and to the full extent of our ability that which we deem to be unwise. Understanding that our chief magistrate prefers the leadership of a party to a magistracy of an entire people, we shall not need to be reminded of that fact again. Believing in the policies of our party, believing in the intelligence and patriotism of its voters, we shall without any misgiving to our ultimate purpose seek to advance the one and insure the take as to the defense of the other."

Denouncing the achievements of the Democratic administration, the speaker appealed for an extra session of Congress next spring to pass rural credits legislation, which he insisted was vastly more important than the ship purchase bill.

He characterized the Federal Reserve Act as a "sort of ante-detonation measure," and declared that it was "too much alive for the operating table, designed for the Treasury, but seemingly on its way to the Smithsonian Institute."

"The cry of the 1915 campaign, will not be for new ideas but for bread, not for more rhetoric but for more soup."

Criticizing the administration policy to acquire the Nicaraguan canal route, Senator Borah declared that "having built one canal and given it to England, we now want to build another and give it to Germany."

Mexican Policy Arraigned. Senator Borah severely arraigned the administration's Mexican policy. (Continued on Page Two.)

Turks Occupy Persian Town and Battle Dith Russians in the Caucasus.

ARE TO INVADE EGYPT

Russians Have Resumed Offensive in East Prussia — German Attack in Poland.

Battle in the Aisne Valley, Where Germans Retake Some of the Ground Lost Most Interesting.

London, Jan. 13.—Battles, large and small, all having an important bearing on the situation, are raging at widely separated points in Europe and Asia.

The Turks have occupied the Persian town of Tabriz, which is a Russian sphere of influence, are battling with the Russians in the Caucasus, and are reported to be making preparations to invade Egypt.

The Russians have resumed the offensive in East Prussia, while the Germans continue to attack them in Poland, and they again are trying to cross the Nida river in Southern Poland, held by the Austrians.

The battle creating the greatest interest is that in the Aisne Valley, northeast of Soissons, where the French have been attacking the German entrenchments for a week. They took important positions Friday and again Sunday, but the Germans, bringing up reinforcements, recovered some of the the lost ground. Otherwise, the unfavorable weather has compelled the Germans and Allies to confine themselves to artillery engagements.

Renewed Russian activity in East Prussia indicates that the freezing over of the Mazurian lakes has occurred at last, for otherwise it would be impossible for troops to advance through the narrow defiles defended by the Germans. The Russians claim also to have made another advance southwest of Rawa, another indication that they contemplate a repetition of their attempt at an invasion of East Prussia from the East and South, despite the fact that repeated German attacks south of the lower Vistula in Poland are keeping them fairly busy. These attacks are being made at different points and, according to the Russian official statements, are easily repelled.

Southern Poland Quiet. There is no recent account of fighting in Southern Poland and Galicia but a Bucharest dispatch says the Austrians have begun an attack on the Austrian fortifications in the mountains which divide Bukovina now in their possession and Transylvania, an attack on which is considered likely to bring Roumania into the war on the side of the Allies.

The Turks according to a Cairo dispatch have decided at last to attempt an invasion of Egypt. In London little credence is given this report. It is not believed possible that troops can cross the desert east of the Suez canal and even if they conquered the waterless waste they would be so exhausted that the British force in Egypt, it is confidently believed, could easily repel them.

Lewis Harcourt, secretary of state for the colonies, addressing a gathering of Australians today, said it was (Continued on Page Two.)

STORM DOES DAMAGE ON ATLANTIC COAST

Schooner Sinking Off Cape Lookout—Another in Distress

Schooner Gladys, With Cargo of Salt Springs Leak—Thomas Winsmore Shifts Deck Load of Lumber But Still Floats.

Beaufort, N. C., Jan. 13.—The American schooner Gladys, from Turks Island for Baltimore with salt, sprang a leak in a gale off Cape Lookout today and tonight was filling rapidly. Life savers who took off her crew reported that she probably would sink.

The American schooner Thomas Winsmore is in distress off Cape Lookout. She shifted her deck load of lumber, but still is afloat.

SIXTY MILES AN HOUR

Little Damage on Land and None at Sea Report From Norfolk.

Norfolk, Va., Jan. 13.—The gale which swept the Virginia coast last night reached a maximum velocity of 60 miles an hour early today, but later abated. The storm did little damage on land and thus far no marine disasters have been reported. The blow was accompanied by rain and snow, the rainfall for 36 hours being 2.53 inches. Some of the streets here were flooded.

TRANSPORTATION HAMPERED

Rhode Island, Connecticut and Massachusetts Suffer.

Boston, Mass., Jan. 13.—The Gulf storm attained its maximum strength off the southeast coast early today, causing much damage in Rhode Island, Connecticut and Southeastern Massachusetts. Many telephone and telegraph wires were crippled and transportation by land and sea was hampered.

Summer residences on Massachusetts bay from Sandwich to Cape Ann were damaged. Some loss was reported at Nantucket, Cohasset and other south shore points.

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NAVAL APPROPRIATION BILL IS AGREED UPON

Nearly Fifty-Four Million Dollars is Total.

House Committee Agrees on a Programme for Two Battleships—Not What Wanted by Big Navy Advocates.

Washington, Jan. 13.—Provision for construction of two great dreadnoughts, six torpedo boat destroyers, 16 coast defense submarines, a seagoing submarine, a hospital ship, a transport and a fuel ship at an aggregate cost of \$53,163,828 is made in the naval appropriation bill agreed on today by the House naval committee. All told the bill carries \$145,500,000, of which \$22,903,988 is for new construction.

The construction programme falls far below plans urged by Representative Hobson and other big navy advocates, but it includes the two battleships asked for by Secretary Daniels and provides for more auxiliaries than the Secretary had contemplated.

Chairman Padgett protested that the committee was "running wild" with appropriations.

The programme proposes the building of two battleships at not more than \$7,800,000 each, exclusive of armor and armament.

Six torpedo boat destroyers at not more than \$925,000 each, exclusive of armament.

One sea-going submarine at not more than \$1,400,000, exclusive of armament.

One hospital ship at not more than \$2,250,000.

One transport at not more than \$2,125,000.

Representative Hobson gave notice that he would carry to the floor of the House his fight for three battleships, two battle cruisers and additional destroyers and submarines.

The bill's total appropriations exceed Navy Department estimates by \$8,000,000, but it was pointed out that this was occasioned by appropriations for a battleship being built from proceeds of the sale to Greece of the battleships Minotauri and Idaho.