

GREAT CONCERN FELT IN THE WORK OF PROVIDING FOR STRICKEN ITALIANS

Supply Service Beginning to Work Satisfactorily, Say Official Reports. COAST REGIONS ARE ALLOTTED TO SHIPS Slight Shocks in Earthquake Zone Complete Ruins of Crumbling Buildings.

(By Associated Press.) ROME, Jan. 1.—What chiefly concerns the government and the people is the progress that is being made towards the relief of those who have suffered by the dreadful earthquake in southern Italy and Sicily.

The minister of justice has wired from Messina to Premier Giolitti that large bodies of troops have arrived and are now occupying all parts of the town. The appalling extent of the disaster renders anything like a systematic search of the ruins impossible, but persons are being dragged out all day long and are quickly transported to the relief ships, as soon as their wounds have received attention.

The latest investigation on both sides of the strait make it certain that many more than half the population of the coast towns and villages have been killed. Prof. Riccio, director of the observatory at Mount Aetha, estimates that the victims of the earthquake exceed 200,000.

Great relief was felt here when the announcement was made that the Pearl Islands, which were reported to have disappeared with their population of 28,000, suffered little or no damage from the earthquake.

Public opinion is serious concerned with regard to the safety of the king and queen and the possible danger from tottering walls. The king frequently has tried to persuade the queen to rest or return to Rome, but she always refuses, declaring that it would break her heart to abandon her husband in his labors for the country in his anguish.

New Year's day in Italy is usually the occasion of festivities and rejoicing as witnessed on Christmas. Imposing ceremonies are celebrated in the churches, where the people crowd to give thanks for past mercies and to implore still further mercies for the new year. The king spends his day receiving greetings from foreign diplomats, his ministers and officials of state; the pope admits privileged hundreds to his mass and during the remainder of the day receives good wishes. But these ceremonies and the festive spirit were wanting today. Instead of rejoicing, Rome is filled with lamentations, pictured on the countenance of all its brief for the destruction of all its regions where thousands may be dead. The flags wave at half-mast and the bells of a thousand churches ring, not for the Te Deum, but toll sad knells for Requiem masses.

Reports from all parts of Italy indicate a generous spirit in aiding the stricken. The king has placed the royal palaces at Naples and Caserta at the disposal of the injured. Princess Yolanda, the seven-year-old daughter of the king, having had the reason for her parents' absence explained to her, carried about a contribution box among her little friends at a party given in her honor at the Quirinal this evening. She herself put in the box her first tiny gold ring, which was given to her on Christmas by her grandmother, Dowager Queen Margherita.

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ROOSEVELT IS YET FIGHTING FOR FORESTS

He Fondly Hopes to Make Congress Act Before Next March.

IT IS HERITAGE FOR W. H. TAFT

President Now Plans For a Third Conference at National Capital.

(By Sheldon S. Cline.)

WASHINGTON, Jan. 1.—President Roosevelt is determined that his good work in initiating the general movement for the conservation of the country's natural resources shall not go for naught. His fondest hope is that before he retires to private life next March this movement, which aims at protecting the natural wealth of the whole country, will bear fruit in the adoption by congress of some definite plan of conservation.

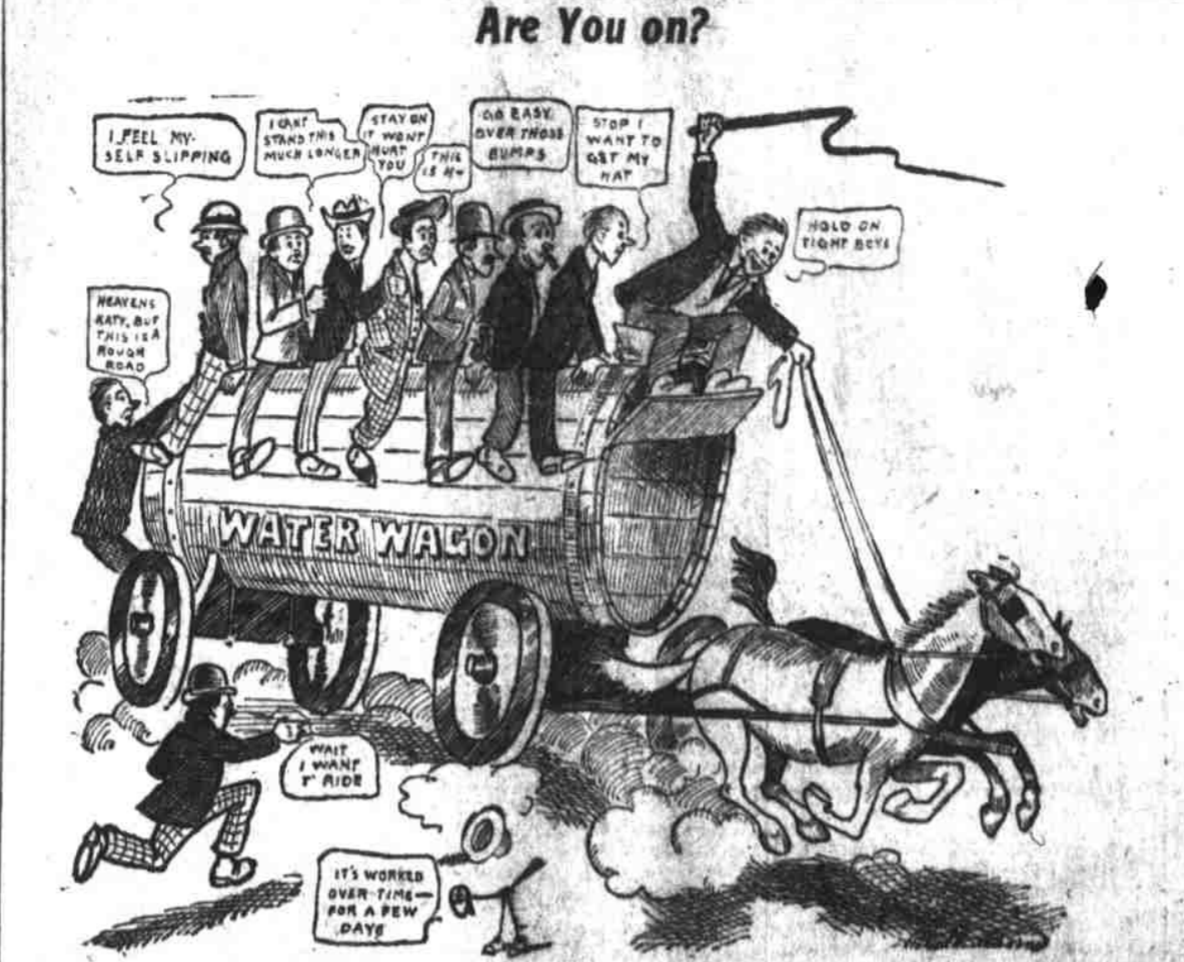
The movement already has taken the form of two notable conferences in this city, one at which the governors of the principal states were present and a subsequent one which was participated in by the leading conservation advocates, including President Roosevelt, President-elect Taft, Gifford Pinchot, Andrew Carnegie and other distinguished men. The president now plans a third conference to be held on February 15 next in this city. He has extended invitations to Canada and Mexico, suggesting that those countries send representatives to confer with regard to a plan of conservation that involves the material progress of the whole of North America.

Strictly Rooseveltian. In taking this step the president has in mind a two-fold plan, in its elaboration entirely in keeping with Rooseveltian ideas. First, to extend the movement so that its scope will include the whole of the North American continent and thereby insure the perpetuation of the Roosevelt conservation policies. Second, to create such a demand for definite conservation through awakening the interest of the entire people that congress will join with the state and appropriate money for the preservation of forests and the protection of navigable streams.

If the president could feel assured that in the near future congress would expend money liberally to check the present alarming waste of the country's natural resources he would go from the white house satisfied that his work in this direction has been well directed. While he has some assurance that this will be done, his mind would be easier were there not now indications that his successor's path will be beset with some of the obstacles that have impeded the progress of the conservation movement since its inception, namely, the opposition of congress to any considerable expenditure for forest preservation.

Opposition Marked. This opposition became marked when the house at the last session blocked the passage of the Appalachian forest reserve bill, a measure providing for the purchase of a forest tract of some five million acres extending through Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia, Pennsylvania and New York. Speaker Cannon thought he detected private gain behind the measure, and it was never reported out of committee. This opposition, however, should not be confounded with opposition to the protection of forest lands already owned by the

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ENGINES FIGHT FIRE ON PASSENGER SHIP IN SAVANNAH RIVER

Firemen Overcome by the Fumes Carried Out Unconscious. GREAT DAMAGE.

(By Associated Press.)

SAVANNAH, GA., Jan. 1.—With fire eating through her cargo of paper and carbides, the new freight and passenger steamship Texas, Captain Peterson, bound from Christiania, Norway to Havana, Cuba, put into the Savannah river this morning and throughout the day chemical engines from the Savannah fire department and fire fighting units fought to save the vessel from a total loss.

The fire was discovered yesterday afternoon when the Texas was 100 miles off Tybee Light. Captain Peterson at once changed his course for the Savannah river with the hatches battered down and steam pouring into the after hold, where the blaze was fiercest. The vessel's mate was brought from quarantine on a United States tug, and took back with him to the steamer that had come fifteen miles up the river, the chemical engines of the local fire department, loaded on lighters. When the fire was uncovered further assistance was called for and three tugs equipped with fire fighting apparatus went to the steamer. After eight hours of struggling, the fire was apparently as dangerous as at first. At intervals, firemen, overcome by the fumes from the carbides were carried out of the hold unconscious, while frequent explosions of carbonyl filled with carbides endangered the lives of those who remained.

The Texas carried fourteen first class passengers, including five women and three children, who were transferred to the United States harbor cutter Tybee, and brought to Savannah. The Texas is of 5,500 tons burden and is on her maiden voyage. She was built in Bergen, Norway, and is owned by Norway and Mexican Gulf Steamship company. The passengers were informed of the fire soon after its discovery, but there was no panic, though the passengers could see the smoke escaping from the hold. It is stated that the fire can not be gotten under control for many hours, if at all. The loss up to the present was estimated at \$10,000.

INVESTIGATION OF MYSTERIOUS DEATH

C. T. Henry Shot Through Temple in Same Way As Was John Voght.

(By Associated Press.)

COLONIAL BEACH, VA., Jan. 1.—Commonwealth Attorney Baker announced today that he would demand a searching investigation of the death of Charles T. Henry, a Spanish war veteran, who was found dead Saturday morning in the same room and shot in the same way as was John Voght, a banker, last April. Both men were found shot through the right temple with the same revolver in the home of Mrs. Annie Voght, the banker's wife.

The coroner's jury was unable to agree on a verdict and the papers were turned over to the commonwealth's attorney. When Voght was found dead his hands were folded across his chest and the revolver lay on his stomach; Voght and his wife, the latter of whom is an attractive woman about 32 years old, conducted a bakery at this place. A week after Voght's death Henry moved from a hotel to Voght's home and attended to part of the work in the Voght bakery.

FINE SPIRIT INDICATED IN RELIEF WORK

San Francisco Has Responded Generously to Call of Stricken Italy.

(By Associated Press.)

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 1.—San Francisco has responded quickly and generously to the call for aid from stricken Italy. The total of contributions made in two days is \$76,720, and to this sum additions are being made every hour. A collection for the earthquake sufferers will be taken up in all the Catholic churches next Sunday.

CONTRIBUTIONS

TOTAL \$76,720

Italian Colony of Charleston Working With Red Cross Society.

(By Associated Press.)

WASHINGTON, Jan. 1.—Monsignor the apostolic delegate has issued an appeal to the church for contributions for "the vast multitude of sufferers" from the Italian earthquake. The appeal urges generosity and says offerings may be sent to the Vatican either through the apostolic delegate or through Cardinal Merry Del Val.

CHARLESTON, S. C., Jan. 1.—The Italian colony of Charleston is contributing a fund for the relief of the earthquake sufferers, the colony working in conjunction with the Red Cross Society. Bishop Gon, of the Episcopal diocese, has appointed the second Sunday in January for a special offering in the churches of the state in behalf of the Italian sufferers, and has prescribed a special prayer for the afflicted to be said for one month in the churches.

CHICAGO, Jan. 1.—With \$40,000 already raised, Chicagoans who are working for the relief of the earthquake sufferers in Italy are confident that by Sunday \$100,000 or more will have been made available for the relief fund. A mass-meeting of business men is to be held tomorrow.

BEACH HARGIS ORDERED RELEASED

(By Associated Press.) IRVINE, N. J., Jan. 1.—Beach Hargis, charged with the murder of his father, former Judge James Hargis, was ordered released on \$25,000 bail today by Judge J. P. Adams, the jury at the first trial of the defendant having disagreed.

Mrs. Louellen Hargis, widow of Judge Hargis and mother of his slayer, and her two brothers, Floyd and John Day, of Jackson will sign the bond on Monday.

A number of wealthy citizens of Estill county also will sign it. Young Hargis will be released tomorrow.



JUDGE TAFT ENJOYS COMPLETE HOLIDAY FROM ALL LABORS

Was Defeated at Golf By Mr. Fox, But Is Still Cheerful. LONG AUTO RIDE.

(By Associated Press.)

AUGUSTA, GA., Jan. 1.—A complete holiday from work was indulged in by the president-elect today. He was defeated at golf by Mr. Austin G. Fox, a New York lawyer. Henry W. Taft confessed a similar ending to his game. The towns of Col. Hargis were the only ones, however, of the day which was bright and cheery. After the golf game, and after the tea family had lunched, with the exception of the president-elect, who restricts himself to two meals a day, a long automobile ride was taken. Mr. Taft was informed by wire that \$55,000 had been raised in Boston and turned over to the Red Cross Society to relieve distress in Italy. Another telegram announced that The Christian Herald had raised \$20,000 for like disposition. Mr. Taft said tonight that he had made no cabinet progress and had nothing to announce in that connection.

Miss Helen Taft, only daughter of the president-elect and Mrs. Taft, tonight assisted Mrs. Langdon Thomas, at her reception, which was held in the pavilion of the Country club.

A delegation 200 strong from Birmingham, Ala., is expected here tomorrow to urge Mr. Taft to visit that city. The chances are that the delegation will go away disappointed so far as a visit is concerned. Another delegation is coming from Athens and the local chamber of commerce will endeavor to persuade the president-elect to allow a few receptions to be arranged for him before he departs. Mr. Taft said tonight that he would try and address the colored Y. M. C. A. at Augusta before he leaves.

KING RETURNS TO RUINS OF REGGIO

Victor Emmanuel Comforts the Sufferers and Encourages the Rescuers.

(By Associated Press.)

REGGIO, Jan. 1.—King Victor Emmanuel returned to the ruins of Reggio today. He traversed the ruins from one end to the other, comforting the sufferers and cheering the rescuers. At one point his majesty came upon a man buried up to his waist in debris. The king encouraged the unfortunate while the soldiers were digging him out. In the midst of the efforts at rescue, the man cried: "Sir, I can wait for deliverance, but for God's sake give me food and drink."

Meeting a group of photographers engaged in taking pictures of the sad scenes, the king chided them for their occupation. "You had much better turn your efforts to succoring the afflicted," said he.

Improvised hospitals are constantly surrounded by multitudes of almost nude survivors begging bread. Food supply depots have been established at several points and long lines of people, praying, imploring and cursing are awaiting the rations that are handed out as fast as they can be brought in. The soldiers are killing the stray dogs and cats that infest the ruins in large numbers, yelping from hunger and viciously attacking the injured and the rescuers alike. It is still raining today. The odor from decomposing bodies is becoming increasingly overpowering. It is estimated 3,000 injured persons have been taken out of the ruins of this city. The deaths in Reggio are today placed at 20,000.

6,053 PEOPLE ARE RECEIVED BY PRESIDENT

Last Year's Record Attendance Broken by Over Seven Hundred.

BRILLIANT SCENES AT ANNUAL FUNCTION

Men and Women Distinguished in Official and Social Circles Present.

(By Associated Press.)

WASHINGTON, Jan. 1.—President Roosevelt received about 6,000 people, representing every state and territory in the union, and exchanged New Year's greetings. For three hours the president stood receiving his guests and when the reception was ended last year's record of attendance had been broken by over seven hundred. Many men and women distinguished in the official and social circles in Washington were present. The brilliant court dress of members of the diplomatic corps gave a picturesque aspect to the annual function which throughout was marked by an absence of formality. The number of small children who were brought by their parents to shake hands with the president was unprecedented.

Contrary to the custom of recent years, Mrs. Roosevelt and the ladies of the cabinet remained in the red room throughout the function.

A shadow of sadness was cast over the company by the recent terrible calamity which has fallen upon the Italian people, whose ambassador was present as the dean of the diplomatic corps, and by the absence of the representative of the Emperor of China, who is wearing a badge of mourning in memory of the late emperor and empress dowager of China.

The president was assisted in receiving by the vice-president, the members of his cabinet and ladies. Dressed in the court dress of their respective countries the diplomatic corps arrived at the white house early and tendered their congratulations to the president and family. The descent of the presidential party from the family rooms to the blue room was one of the most picturesque features of the day. As the president and Mrs. Roosevelt started down the staircase, followed by others of the receiving party, a flare of trumpets resounded throughout the mansion. The Marine band, in brilliant scarlet uniforms, was stationed in the stately halls. The strains of "Hail to the Chief" greeted the president as he reached the main floor and turned to enter the blue room. The announcement of the callers was made to the president by Col. Charles S. Bromwell, U. S. A., and to Mrs. Roosevelt by Captain A. W. Butte, military aide to the president.

Judge Fuller Leads. Chief Justice Fuller and the associate justices of the Supreme Court of the United States, led the entire judiciary present, after which came senators and representatives in congress. Brigadier General J. Franklin Bell, chief of staff, led the army, which was very fully represented, all of the officers being in full dress uniform. The navy also was well represented. The officials of the government, representing all important bureaus of the various departments, were followed by representatives of various patriotic societies, which had been given places of honor in the line.

Mrs. Fairbanks and ladies of the cabinet circle assisted Mrs. Roosevelt. A large number of ladies were invited to the blue room, including Mrs. Robert Bacon, Mrs. Robert Wynne, Mrs. Robert Shaw, Oliver, Mrs. H. L. Satterlee, the Misses Myer, Miss Elkins, Miss Katherine Elkins, Mrs. Foraker, Mrs. Longworth, Mrs. J. Franklin Bell, Mrs. Huntington Wilson and Miss Cannon.

Owing to the ideal weather conditions the attendance of the general public was remarkably large. Scattered among them were a few dozen negroes. The president authoritatively greeted the public and not a single New Year wish was extended to him that was not returned. He especially welcomed a group of Quakeresses who appeared in their tidy caps and gowns. The exact number attending the reception was announced by the automatic counter to be 6,052. After the reception at the white house, the president went for a horseback ride.

WRISTED PISTOL FROM ERB THEN KILLED HIM SAYS THE DEFENSE

(By Associated Press.)

MEDIA, Pa., Jan. 1.—The commonwealth closed in the Erb case here this afternoon. The defense opened by an address to the jury outlining the contention that Mrs. Catharine Beisel shot her brother-in-law to death, after a fierce struggle, in self-defense, during which she wrested the pistol from him. In the encounter the weapon was accidentally fired, leaving smoke in the hallway, the jury was told. The defense argued that when Mrs. Beisel secured the revolver she shot rapidly, and in the smoke did not know how far she was from Erb, who retreated towards his bedroom, receiving three of the bullets in his body. The jury was also informed that "Erb had sought in every way to rid himself of his wife by making it most unpleasant for her at Red Gables, when he was unable to bring charges that would sustain divorce proceedings." Their many alleged quarrels and fights were repeated verbally to the jury. Mrs. Erb collapsed and had to be carried from the room just before adjournment. She was revived and returned as the defense concluded the address to the jury. Her counsel announced that she will be the first witness tomorrow morning after her exhibits have been introduced. These exhibits consist of photographs and plans made of the scene of the tragedy. Mrs. Beisel will testify last, after other witnesses have been examined.

SAYS SOUTH AMERICA IS FINE COUNTRY

T. C. Dawson Tells of Excellent Money Making Opportunities.

NATURAL PRODUCTS ARE ENORMOUS

"If Americans Get in Colombia First They Will Reap the Harvest."

(Special Correspondent The Citizen.)

WASHINGTON, Jan. 1.—Thomas C. Dawson, envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary to Columbia, who has just returned from the South American country, to discuss some state matters with Secretary Root, says a live American may find any number of excellent money-making opportunities down there. Mr. Dawson is an unusually close and accurate observer.

"The natural products of the country are enormous," says the Colombian minister, "but their cultivation is awaiting the introduction of capital and means of transportation, railroads and canals. If Americans get in Colombia first they will reap the harvest. If American capitalists allow foreigners to beat them into Colombia, our promoters will have missed a golden opportunity."

"You can get some idea of the situation when I explain that near Bogota there are 20,000 square miles of land going to waste that is as good as our best Iowa soil. There are 150,000 square miles of range practically unused."

In his view Minister Dawson is only emphasizing those expressed by other members of the diplomatic corps to South American countries, who deplore the fact that it is almost impossible for a South American country to be distinguished for intellectual and commercial stagnation. The principal capitals of Latin-American boast of native groups of eminent scholars, scientists and philosophers, as well as universities and professional schools which are no less advanced than similar groups and institutions in the United States and Europe.

OFFICERS TELL OF VOLCANO AT SEA

Report a Field of Boiling Water Off Coast of Georgia December 13.

(By Associated Press.)

NORFOLK, VA., Jan. 1.—A volcano at sea and a field of boiling water off the coast of Georgia, are among the phenomena which British officers have reported to the hydrographic office here. While the British steamer Baltic was headed towards this coast on December 12, in latitude 31.14, and longitude 23, First Officer Landmark observed what he reported as an eruption apparently 20 miles distant to the westward, resembling a volcano action. The weird disturbance lasted but a few seconds.

DIES SUDDENLY IN CHURCH PEW

(By Associated Press.) NEW YORK, Jan. 1.—Thomas Perkins, 69 years of age, a member of the New York cotton exchange, died suddenly today in his pew in the First Presbyterian church, Brooklyn. Just after making a speech at the New Year's services.