

QUEEN OF ITALY SLIGHTLY INJURED; SOVEREIGNS IN GREAT DANGER IN SICILY

Her Majesty Caught in Panic of Hospital Patients.

SELF-SACRIFICE OF VICTOR EMMANUEL

Earthquake Shocks Do Not Seem to Have Ceased. People Terrified.

(By Associated Press.)
ROME, Jan. 2.—The great danger which the king and queen of Italy are facing in their noble efforts among the stricken people of Sicily and the south, was brought home to the people today when word reached here that Queen Helena had been injured. Fortunately her injuries proved to be not severe, but it is realized that any moment another calamity might happen involving the serious injury or even the death of their majesties.

Not one among the rescuers has shown more self-sacrifice than King Victor Emmanuel and the queen, too, has taxed her health and strength to the utmost in giving relief and assistance to the injured. Anxiety for the sovereigns is increasing in Rome. Apart from the great strain which their majesties unquestionably are undergoing there is danger from the earthquake shocks which do not seem to have ceased; from walls that have not yet been levelled; from great fissures in the broken streets, and from disease.

The injuries suffered by the queen resulted from a panic among the patients in one of the improvised hospitals at Messina, when the trembling of the earth and rumbling, indicated another earthquake, the queen was caught in the panic when the terrified patients were seeking safety in the open. The panic was soon quelled and the injuries of the queen attended to.

All the Lipari islands reports state that the earthquake shocks were very heavy there and that a panic ensued. The convicts, of whom a large number are imprisoned there, attempted a rising, but were suppressed.

Volcano Active.
The Stromboli volcano showed great activity. The damage, however, was not so serious and no one was killed, but the people are camping in the open air, fearing that further shocks may come and overthrow their homes.

The Duke of Genoa will leave Naples tomorrow morning for Messina. He said today that he wished to contribute all his power to the work of rescue going on in Sicily and would put himself at the disposal of the government. The duke will either take command of the Italian fleet now in those waters or work as a private individual, not having other ambition than to join with the sailors, among whom he has spent his life, in helping his brothers in the south.

Nunzio Nasi, the former minister of justice, who was involved in the late scandal connected with public funds, has joined the rescuing parties at Messina. He was accompanied by six doctors, several nurses and a number of students and citizens of Trapani. Even the presence of Nasi, who is the idol of Sicilians, did not serve to infuse fresh life into the depressed people.

It is stated that the pope has decided to send an appeal to the Catholic bishops throughout the world, for the purpose of obtaining subscription to the earthquake fund. He will place great dependence upon the generosity of Americans, English and Irish.

STORIES OF DISASTER

MESSINA, Jan. 2.—The stories related by the earthquake survivors in the hospitals and at the food supply stations where rations are issued twice a day, all reflect the horror of the fateful 28th of December. There were many miraculous escapes, but the cases of bereavement are without number, a cobbler named Francesco Messiano relates that immediately after the first shock he and his wife and children rushed out into the street. Fire was breaking out all around them. Hearing groans from a pile of debris nearby the cobbler made a hurried examination. He found two girls dying. The head of one was split open while the chest of the other had been crushed in. The cobbler picked up a baby, but it expired in his arms.

Seized with mad terror, the man fled towards the sea. It took him two hours and a half to traverse the heaps of ruins between his house and the water front. After placing his family in safety he returned to his home.

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NO HITCH IN SMOOTH RUNNING AT THUNDERBOLT RACE TRACK

(By Associated Press.)
SAVANNAH, Ga., Jan. 2.—At the Thunderbolt track today Ray Thompson won the first race under the hard riding of Simmons.

First race, five furlongs, for three-year-olds and up, purse—Ray Thompson, 3 to 5, won; Miss Duxon, 4 to 1, second; Frank Patton, 15 to 1, third. Time, 1:32.

Second race, mile, three-year-olds and up, purse—Melina, 5 to 5, won; The Ram, 12 to 5, second; Polar Star, 5 to 1, third. Time, 1:46 4-5.

PRESIDENT HAS SENT SUPPLIES TO SUFFERERS

Two Ships With \$300,000 Worth of Supplies Start For Italy.

TO ASK ADDITIONAL AID OF CONGRESS

Mr. Roosevelt Offers Use of Battleship Fleet to Italy.

(By Associated Press.)
WASHINGTON, Jan. 2.—President Roosevelt tonight announced that he has sent two supply ships with \$300,000 worth of supplies to Italy, that he will ask congress for additional aid and that he has offered the use of the battleship fleet to Italy.

The announcement is made in a telegram, made public at the white house, which he sent to Patrick McGowan, chairman of the American Italian general relief committee of New York. The telegram follows:

"I earnestly wish success to the American-Italian relief committee in its great mass meeting at Madison Square. It is impossible for me to attend. I am doing everything that can be done to get aid to the sufferers and have sent two supply ships with \$300,000 dollars worth of food and provisions without awaiting for the authority of congress, being confident that congress will approve of my action. I shall also ask congress for additional aid and throughout the coming week will keep in the closest touch with congress, and through the state department, with Italy, so that everything possible to be done by the United States may be done."

"Furthermore I have cabled the Italian government proffering the services of any or all the battleship fleet which can be of use in this crisis."

(Signed)
"THEODORE ROOSEVELT."

President Roosevelt is engaged tonight in preparing his special message to congress to be presented to that body when it convenes Monday recommending suitable action on the part of this government to express its substantial sympathy with the earthquake sufferers. A large amount of data on precedents on the aid being rushed from various quarters, has been prepared for the president and was gone over by him and Secretary Loeb.

Perplexing Problem.
When the president began his task the most perplexing problem was whether he should recommend the diversion of the supplies on the Celtic and the Culgoa, designed for the fleet of battleships now in the Suez, or whether he should ask for a direct appropriation of \$300,000 to be made immediately available for the relief. The data prepared for him showed that in the Mount Pelée catastrophe the government appropriated \$200,000 for the relief of the sufferers. A committee of distinguished citizens was designated to visit the scene and disburse the money. A similar plan appeared very strongly to the president, certain modifications being suggested, such as the selection of a committee of Americans now in Italy, or the delegation of the American ambassador or agents of the Red Cross to attend to the disbursement of the money. The question which the president sought to determine was whether aid given in this way would not reach the sufferers sooner than by means of the naval supply ships now on the Atlantic, but many days sail from Sicily and the southern Italy.

The two supply ships referred to by President Roosevelt in his telegram tonight are the Culgoa and the Celtic. The Celtic sailed from the New York navy yard Thursday and will proceed as rapidly as possible to Messina, touching at Gibraltar. The Culgoa is at Suez, awaiting the arrival of the fleet. The battleships, if ordered to the relief of the sufferers, would have a lap of about 900 miles to cover from Suez to Messina.

The gunboat Scorpion is already on her way to Messina, and is due there by Monday at the latest.

Worked Overtime



GAUDY PLANS FOR TAFT BANQUET

Tables Will Form American Flag, With Red, White and Blue Flowers.

(By Associated Press.)
ATLANTA, Ga., Jan. 2.—In addition to "possum and taters," the banquet to be tendered Judge Taft by the Atlanta chamber of commerce will have other sparkling features.

The banquet room, it was announced today, will be laid out with the tables forming an American flag, the colors done in flowers, roses, carnations and violets. This flower flag will apparently hang from the ceiling behind the speaker's table, falling down to the floor and crossing the speaker's table in making the field of stars, with guests' tables at right angles to the speaker's table, forming the stripes. When the toastmaster first rises to speak, what apparently is a solid bank of forms behind the speaker's table, will abruptly rise to the ceiling, drawn by invisible wires, revealing the field of blue flowers and white stars and creating the flag effect. Electric lights will sparkle throughout this scented mass of color.

The menu of the president-elect will lie in a brass casket. It will be in booklet form, the outer cover bearing a heavy gold plate with Mr. Taft's name engraved thereon. The menu will be bound in leather and will bear among other emblems a shield representing the Phoenix of Atlanta.

CHENEYS ONLY AMERICANS KILLED

Serao Believes U. S. Consul and Wife to Be Only American Victims.

(By Associated Press.)
ROME, Jan. 2.—Signor Serao, the proprietor of the house in Messina where A. J. Ogston, the English consul resided, arrived here today. He says that outside the consulate there has not been an American resident in Messina for 40 years past. The part of the house where Serao lived, did not fail. The Italian rushed out immediately after the first shock and met Stuart Lupton, the American vice-consul, on the street. Together the two men made their way to the American consulate. They found it had collapsed completely and they came to the conclusion that A. E. Cheney, the consul, and his wife, were dead. They made a hurried but unsuccessful search for the bodies.

Continuing, Serao says that with Mr. Lupton he satisfied himself that the guests at the Hotel Trinacria, which was completely demolished, were all saved with the exception of the Swedish consul, and an Italian girl. He does not believe that there was any American at the hotel.

Taormina, where there were a number of American tourists, is absolutely safe. It did not suffer from the earthquake in any way.

"I may be mistaken," said Signor Serao, "but it is my personal impression that with the exception of Mr. Cheney and his wife, no Americans were killed or injured by the earthquake in Sicily."

YUAN SHI KAI IS DISMISSED FROM OFFICE

Removal of Grand Councilor Believed to Be Outcome of Manchu Plot.

CALLED STRONGEST MAN IN CHINA

Dismissal Will Cripple China's Credit and Postpone Withdrawal of Troops.

(By Associated Press.)
PEKING, Jan. 2.—An edict issued today dismisses from office Yuan Shi Kai, grand councillor and commander-in-chief of the forces. The reason given for this action is that he has rheumatism of the leg. The edict orders Yuan Shi Kai to vacate all his offices and to return to his home, adding: "Thus our clemency toward him is manifested."

A second edict appoints Na-Tung, controller of customs and ex-governor of Peking, grand councillor, presumably in Yuan Shi Kai's place.

The members of the diplomatic corps at Peking are well nigh thunderstruck at the sudden dismissal of Yuan Shi Kai. The step is believed to be the outcome of a Manchu plot and there are indications that the Japanese representatives alone had any inkling of what was on foot. Two hours after the ministers became cognizant of the dismissal, the American, German and British ministers were in conference at the British legation. The home governments will act only after an exchange of dispatches, but there is reason to believe that Prince Chin, president of the board of foreign affairs, will be waited upon by a strong diplomatic combination such as the British, German and American representatives here.

There is nothing to indicate that the dismissal of Yuan Shi Kai means danger to foreigners, but the good fame of China's management of the crisis following the demise of the emperor and the dowager empress and the appointment of a successor has been swept away by this vindictive act, which will astonish and arouse the outside world, cripple China's credit and postpone the withdrawal of foreign troops probably for five years.

Await Further Action.
Yuan Shi Kai's feelings are as yet unknown and the legations are anxiously awaiting a clue to the throne's future course of action.

In accordance with the regulations of the new regency the decree of dismissal was marked and sealed by the prime regent and bore the signatures of the grand councillors, excepting that of Prince Ching. This is evidence that Prince Ching dissented.

There are grave apprehensions here of revolutionary outbreaks, in such centers as Canton, and some of the most conservative diplomats at

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RECEIVERS FOR A., B. AND A. R. R.

Receivership Said to Be Friendly and Designed for Best Interest of Creditors.

(By Associated Press.)
ATLANTA, Ga., Jan. 2.—Judge Don Fardee, of the United States circuit court today appointed President H. M. Atkinson, and Vice-President P. S. Arkwright, receivers for the Atlanta, Birmingham and Atlantic railway.

The petition gives as grounds for requesting the receivership that the company is unable at this time to meet the interest due on its bonds. It says that the receivership is friendly and designed for the best interests of all creditors until the road is able to meet its interest obligations. The petition says that there are no doubt of ability of the company to meet obligations if given sufficient time. The panic of 1907 is cited as the principal reason for the road's present condition.

The petition says there is due in interest \$723,700. The only interest paid on January 1, was on Atlanta and Birmingham railway company bonds, amount not stated. The amount of outstanding bonds is given as \$11,443,000 not including \$4,090,000 in bonds reserved by the Old Colony Trust company of Boston.

The bonds of the receivers were fixed at \$50,000 each.

TELLS OF ERB'S SAVAGE CRUELTY

Widow Gives Dramatic Recital of Alleged Brutality of Husband.

(By Associated Press.)
MEDIA, Pa., Jan. 2.—A dramatic recital of wrongs alleged to have been inflicted upon her, Mrs. M. Florence Erb, who with her sister, Mrs. Catharine Beisel, is charged with the murder of Capt. J. Clayton Erb at the Erb country home on the night of October 5, told a story of almost savage cruelty that created a sensation today in the Delaware county court room, where the trial has been in progress since Tuesday.

Captain Erb was held up by his widow today as having committed deeds of brutality that startled all who heard it.

Mrs. Erb was on the stand for seven hours, being one of the first witnesses called by the defense, which opened its case today. The commonwealth claimed the shooting of Captain Erb was deliberate, while the defense is trying to show that Erb was killed by Mrs. Beisel in self-defense. Mrs. Erb told of her life at Red Gables, the Erb country home, since 1906, when she first went to live there with Erb. She told a harrowing story of having been beaten, thrown out of the house on cold nights and of having been called vile names by the husband on many occasions. Quarrels, she alleged, were of daily occurrence. Even some of the servants in the house, she further alleged, insulted her, and she was only laughed at by her husband. She did not see the actual shooting, she declared, but recounted the quarrel she had with the captain prior to the shooting, during which she threw several household articles at him when he attempted to shoot her. Fearing for her life, she went on to say, she sent for her sister, who came to her assistance, and the shooting followed.

On cross-examination, the widow admitted she had lived with Erb before she married him, and in explaining why she did not leave him when he treated her so brutally, as she alleged, the widow said that she was all the time trying to force him to marry her.

BURTON NAMED NEXT SENATOR.
(By Associated Press.)
COLUMBUS, Ga., Jan. 2.—Theodore E. Burton of Cleveland was named as the next senator from Ohio by the republican senatorial caucus this afternoon.

TAFT IS TO SEE BIRMINGHAM; ALSO ATHENS

Alabama Visit Will Probably Be Made After Panama Trip.

TO MAKE ADDRESS AT GA. UNIVERSITY

Will Speak in Augusta on Same Street Corner as Did Mr. McKinley.

(By Associated Press.)
AUGUSTA, Ga., Jan. 2.—This was invitation day at the Taft cottage, and the net result extends Mr. Taft's southern itinerary to include visits to Birmingham, Ala., and Athens, Ga., and to address the people of Augusta from the same street corner at which they once listened to President McKinley.

The Birmingham visit was induced by a large delegation of the prominent and professional men from that city. Just when Mr. Taft will make this visit is left somewhat uncertain. If it is possible for him to do so he will go to Birmingham on his way north from Panama, if not, he will include that city in the itinerary which he will make for an extended southern trip as soon as his duties as president will permit.

The Athens visit depends somewhat on the Atlanta committee of arrangements for the festivities to be held in that city on the 15th, and 16th inst. If it is possible to do so, and Mr. Taft thinks that it is, Mr. Taft will have his special car stopped at Athens on his return from Atlanta long enough to go to the State University and make an address. His Augusta neighbors were made perfectly happy by the promise of an address and the further willingness of the president-elect to place himself in the hands of a committee from the chamber of commerce for a dinner. The speech and dinner will occur on January 21.

Completed March 4.
Mr. Taft said today that his cabinet would not be completed until March 4. He added that he expected to make progress in that direction before he sailed for Panama, the inference being that some of the places would be filled and the announcements made before he sails. He said he should not consider foreign appointments until his cabinet was completed.

United States Senator Henry Cabot Lodge, of Massachusetts, arrived here today by invitation. Mr. Lodge spent the greater part of the afternoon with Mr. Taft and has engagements for tomorrow to continue the conferences. He expects to leave for Washington tomorrow night. The senator said tonight that he had nothing whatever to say for publication. Mr. Taft said they had discussed cabinet matters.

The friendliness of Mr. Lodge for Postmaster General Myers is well known, also the fact that he believes Mr. Myers' services would add to the strength of the cabinet, preferably as the head of the treasury department. William Nelson Cromwell, of New York, has been invited here by Mr. Taft.

John Hays Hammond, president of the National League of Republican Clubs, and Frank H. Hitchcock, chairman of the republican national committee, attended a barbecue at the lodge of the local hunt club here today.

The exchange of felicitations between Mr. Taft and the Birmingham delegation were decidedly cordial and interesting as showing the importance attached to the presence in the south of Mr. Taft, from the viewpoint of the business men of this section.

General Rufus N. Rhodes, editor of the Birmingham News spoke for the delegation, which was headed by John L. Kaul, president of the commercial club. What he said was seconded by T. H. Aldrich, a large mining operator, E. W. Barrett, editor of the Age-Herald, spoke as the representative of the press, and Judge S. D. Weakley, the bar association. Of the delegation of 25 not more than five, it was said, were republicans, the remainder were democrats.

ASSASSINATION OF ATTORNEY IS ATTEMPTED
Two Shots Fired at Prosecuting Attorney of Night Rider Trial.
MAN ESCAPES AFTER SHOOTING Mrs. Morris, on Stand, Confesses to Perjury—Dramatic Scene.

(By Associated Press.)
UNION CITY, Tenn., Jan. 2.—An attempt to assassinate Attorney-General Caldwell was made at 9:30 o'clock tonight near his home here. He was followed from the depot by a man who shot at him twice as he neared his home. Union City is not well lighted and as the man ran after firing the shots the attorney general could not identify his assailant.

A little behind the attorney general, was the local Associated Press correspondent, who shot twice at the would-be murderer, but missed him. The alarm was given and a cordon of soldiers and posse officers searched the neighborhood, but without avail.

The defense rested its case in the night rider trials this evening and the state began its rebuttal testimony, which will be concluded Monday. The grand jury likewise made its final return, including several indictments and was discharged.

When court adjourned until Monday Mrs. Morris, whose sensational confession of perjury today was the star feature of the trial, accompanied by her husband and baby, under the protection of six soldiers, left for Dresden, Weakley county, where she will live in future. She was in such terror that she did not even wait to get her other two children or her personal effects.

The state put but one witness on the stand before adjournment, Bob Curtin, driver of the hack which plies between Union City and Walnut Log on the lake. Curtin drove some of the defense's witnesses to Walnut Log the night the fish docks were burned and saw them leave his conveyance to join the night riders.

On cross-examination he said he took two quarts of whiskey with him on the drive and at the end of it had a little less than a quart left. Asked if this had not made him "feel his oats" he grew indignant and replied: "What drunk on a quart on an hour's drive? Why I can prove by Uncle Bill Gibbs that I drink a quart before breakfast and never feel it."

Conscience Stricken.
Asserting that on the witness stand yesterday she had deliberately perjured herself for the defense, and conscience-stricken desired to tell the truth, Mrs. Morris, wife of one of the eight alleged night riders, asked to be recalled today. Ward Morris swore he was present the night Captain Rankin was killed and recognized some of the defendants. Mrs. Morris, his wife, on the stand yesterday swore that her husband was at home that night. She left the stand pale and trembling and sent for the attorney general.

"I have done a great wrong" she said. I have told a lie. My husband was not at home that night. He was with the riders. I was forced by my relatives to testify as I did. I want to see my husband."

Her brother-in-law tried to get her to leave the city with him, but the attorney general ordered him away and took Mrs. Morris to her husband. The meeting of the young husband and wife, separated since October 20, was silent but pathetic.

After nine witnesses had been called today, the attorney general asked that Mrs. Morris be permitted to correct her former testimony. She took the stand and said:

"I was persuaded to tell a lie yesterday on the stand. I was told by Joe Hooge and Jack Long that unless I swore that my husband was at home that night the soldiers would hang him. They also threatened me and I was afraid so I told this lie. Now I want to tell the truth."

The witness bore the taunts and imputations of the attorneys for the defense and the glare of the indicted men patiently, but she was badly frightened, and often seemed on the point of collapsing. She declared the attorney general refused to listen to her unless she had summoned some of her relatives to advise her.

U. S. COMMISSIONER HAS BEGUN CONFERENCE IN VENEZUELA

(By Associated Press.)
CARACAS, VENEZUELA, Friday, Jan. 1, via Willemstad, Curacao, Jan. 2.—Conferences between W. I. Buchanan, the special commissioner from the United States and Foreign Minister Gullnaur, looking to the settlement of the difficulties between the United States and Venezuela have begun.

President Gomez yesterday revoked decree of May 14, prohibiting the transshipment of goods at Curacao, destined for Venezuela. Gomez now signs himself officially as president of the republic.

It is felt here in diplomatic quarters that the mission to Europe of Jose Paul, who was foreign minister

under President Castro, will result in failure for the reason that Senor Paul signed the obnoxious notes issued by Castro.

There has been another little outbreak in the State of Guazaco. The governor of this locality a man named Mendible, killed a Gomez appointee named Briceño, raised the local arsenal and is now in the open country with a few followers. The movement is not regarded as serious.

A despatch has been received from Cypriano Castro, in Berlin, reading: "I am informed of what has taken place at Caracas. Above mankind is God."

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CHARGES HARRIMAN WITH CORUPTION

(By Associated Press.)
PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 2.—At the long table luncheon the City club here today, Francis J. Henry of San Francisco, who prosecuted the "graft" cases in that city, declared that E. H. Harriman of New York, through his control of the Southern Pacific railroad, was "responsible for the graft and corruption that had been found in the Golden Gate city."



(By Associated Press.)
WASHINGTON, Jan. 2.—Forecast: North Carolina—Fair Sunday, Monday increasing cloudiness with probably rain near the coast. Moderate temperature, variable winds.