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UNDER THE SEISMIC SHOCK ALL KINGSTON CRUMBLED, DROPPED IN CRASHING RUIN

As in San Francisco and Valparaiso Conflagration Followed Convulsion.

HUNDREDS OF LIVES LOST IN THE DISASTER

The First Reports Direct from Kingston, Overwhelmed by This Awful Catastrophe, Tell of the Almost Total Annihilation of the Jamaican Capital, Stating That Nearly Every House in the City is a Ruin. That Four Hundred Are Dead and That Thousands Have Been Injured. The British Colonial Office at Once Takes Measures Looking to the Relief of the Suffering.

(By the Associated Press.)

Kingston, Jamaica, Jan. 16.—Kingston was overwhelmed by an earthquake at 3:30 on Monday afternoon. All the houses within a radius of ten miles were injured, and almost every house in the city was a ruin. That four hundred are dead and that thousands have been injured.

Fire broke out after the earthquake and completed the work of destruction. The business section of Kingston is a heap of smoldering ashes. The killer number about four hundred, and thousands were injured.

The churches, public offices and hotels are all gone, but there were no fatalities at the Constan Spring Hotel.

Among the killed were Sir James Ferguson and prominent merchants and professional men.

HUMAN DESOLATION STRETCHES ON ALL SIDES.

London, Jan. 16.—The contradictory and scant character of the news that thus far has reached London from Jamaica renders it difficult to estimate the extent of the calamity caused by the earthquake and subsequent conflagration. Messages received by various steamship and cable companies however, indicate that while the early reports of the destruction of Kingston and great loss of life, were exaggerated the disaster was still of a grave character.

Ruin and desolation are said to stretch for miles outside the city of Kingston. The shocks were felt from fifty to sixty miles away and one dispatch from the temporary cable station at Bull Bay says that not a single house between there and Kingston is safe.

No estimate of the loss of life from official sources has as yet come through, but the camp hospital appears to have been in the center of the visitation, as no less than 40 negro soldiers were killed there. There were isolated fatalities among the Europeans at Kingston, but apparently the aggregate of the white victims is small. The distance between the buildings known to have been destroyed is taken to indicate that the total loss of property will be great.

According to the latest despatches slight earthshocks continue to be felt at Kingston.

The West Indian Committee of the admiralty and the privates concerns having interests in Jamaica are taking all the steps possible to alleviate the distress in Kingston itself.

DETAILS OF DISASTER RECEIVED IN LONDON.

London, Jan. 16.—The destruction wrought by the "earthquake" at Kingston, Jamaica, and the subsequent conflagration according to an official telegram received this morning at the colonial office was by no means so widespread as indicated in the first reports.

Although the total number of killed and wounded has not yet been ascertained apparently it is not very large and only a small portion of the city, including, however, wharves and warehouses, suffered from the fire that followed the earthquake. The greater number of casualties seemingly was in the camp hospital where thirty colored soldiers were killed.

The telegram which was sent by Governor Swettenham, is undated, but is presumed to have been sent on Monday. The text is as follows:

"Severe earthquake shock this afternoon between three and four o'clock, causing considerable damage. (Continued on second page.)

THE FLORIDA LIMITED WRECKED THIS MORNING AND FOUR CARS BURNED

Dashed Into an Open Switch
Two Miles North
of Raleigh

NO ONE WAS SERIOUSLY HURT IN THE ACCIDENT

Evidence That the Switch Had Been Tampered With, and Engineer Says He Saw Four Men at Foot of Embankment Just as He Approached the Spot—Baggage Car, Diner and Two Pullmans Burned. Corpse Which Was in the Baggage Car Cremated—Two Accidents Have Occurred at the Same Point Within a Month, But from Different Causes.

A disastrous wreck occurred on the Seaboard Air Line this morning at 3:45 at the junction of the Raleigh & Pamlico Sound Railroad, and it was miraculous that all on board escaped, no one being seriously injured even.

The train wrecked was No. 84, northbound, known as the Florida Limited, and is regarded as the finest train on the road. The baggage car, diner and two Pullmans were burned, only two cars having been saved, and they were the rear sleepers. Immediately after the wreck a gasoline pipe under the diner exploded and set the train on fire. This morning at 10 o'clock all the cars had been burned and all that was left of the handsome train was the trucks and the iron pipes. The wreck occurred very near where there was a wreck just before Christmas.

Accident Caused by Open Switch. The accident was due to the switch where the Raleigh & Pamlico road branches off being open, and there is evidence that it was tampered with. Southbound train No. 33 passed over the switch about twenty-five minutes before the accident.

Dr. McKee also told of Nall having been brought back to the asylum after his escape and his condition at the time.

All of the defendants, Durham Peal, High and King, have gone on the stand, Peal and Durham yesterday afternoon and the others this morning. The examination of Peal and Durham was not concluded yesterday and they were cross-examined this morning.

The switch is perhaps ten yards to the north of the trestle over Pigeon House branch, and at this point there is a very high embankment. On the track are marks which show that an effort was made to stop the engine as it was passing over the trestle, there being sand upon the track.

The track shows sand for a distance of about seventeen or eighteen feet south of the switch. At the point where the large engine left the rails the track is intact; and if the wrecked train was not to be seen on the Raleigh & Pamlico track a few yards beyond, there would be nothing to show that a wreck had occurred.

The main line of the Seaboard was practically undamaged, and at that point appears to be in perfect condition. The engine left the rails a few feet to the north of the switch, having run on the track of the Raleigh & Pamlico for a very short distance, and it then dropped between the tracks. Near the switch the crossings are very close together and held the engine up, but where they were farther apart they were snapped like pipe stems, and the mighty engine ploughed through the red clay. After following the track for a short distance, the engine turned, or at least the track curved and the engine kept straight ahead and ploughed through the clay almost to the point where the county road crosses the railroad track. The engine was not overturned, and stands with the wheels almost buried, and is not greatly damaged, with the exception of all

(Continued on Page Seven.)

By Mr. Aycock—to declare life insurance policies personal property and subject to assessment for taxation purposes at cash surrender value. Committee on Finance, the bill being a "revenue raiser."

By Mr. Davis—Relating to dumping of sawdust in streams of Burke County, Cities and Towns.

By Mr. Drewry—to prohibit discrimination by life insurance companies, Insurance.

By Mr. Drury—to repeal the present "squirrel law," so far as it applies to Game Warden.

By Mr. Aycock—to declare life insurance policies personal property and subject to assessment for taxation purposes at cash surrender value. Committee on Finance, the bill being a "revenue raiser."

By Mr. Daniel—to amend chapter 53, private laws of 1897, as amended by chapter 388, Acts 1891, relating to the charter of town of Roanoke Rapids, N. C.

By Mr. Burton—to amend section (Continued on Page Seven.)

WANTS NEW LAW FOR UNCLE SAM THE LOBBY BILL PASSES HOUSE

Governor Transmits Letter Requiring Paid Agents or to the Legislature Attorneys to Register

URGED TO TAKE ACTION MORE DEBATE ON IT

Two New Bills Introduced in the Senate Today Dealing With Insurance Companies—Warm Debate on Proposition to Amend Election Laws.

The seventh day's session of the state senate, called to order today at 11 o'clock by Lieutenant Governor Winston, was opened with invocation by Rev. Dr. M. M. Marshall, rector of the Brookly Methodist Church of this city, pronounced the invocation.

The journal of Tuesday was read and approved.

Reports from various standing committees swelled the calendar slightly.

New Laws—Bills Ratified.

Senate Bill 60, house bill 61—Provides for storm doors for houses of representatives.

S. B. 89, H. B. 71—Abolishes January term of Ashe county superior court.

S. B. 5, H. B. 141—Amends charters of Cabarrus Sayings Bank of Concord.

Letter From Uncle Sam.

A message from his excellency, the governor of North Carolina, was received, transmitting a letter from the treasury department of the United States government, signed by J. H. Edwards, acting secretary of the treasury, in which that official calls the attention of the governor to the fact that it has been discovered, that the present law of North Carolina is not satisfactory to the United States authorities in regard to the jurisdiction of the state authorities on sites and in property owned by the United States; that unless a new act is passed satisfactory to the United States, work on the construction of federal buildings in all North Carolina towns will be suspended or postponed indefinitely.

Bills Introduced.

Jackson—Validate appointment of W. H. Hodrick as justice of peace in Beaufort.

Owen—Increase pensions for Confederate soldiers.

McNeil—Provide for state board of examiners for railroad telegraph operators.

Price of Union—Prevent ticket scalping in criminal actions.

Bailey—Regulate killing of quail and other game birds in Madison.

Pugh—Authorize board of education of Dare to refund amount overpaid of public school taxes. Allow county commissioners of Dare to levy special taxes for support of poor and infirm.

Gaston of Buncombe—Amend 5437 Reysial, relative to practice of veterinary surgery.

Taylor of Brunswick—Validate a deed by mayor and board of aldermen of Southport.

Julian of Rowan—Prescribe penalty for carrying concealed weapons.

Harshaw of Caldwell—Protect citizens at public gatherings from headgear or head ornaments.

Kenedy—Regulate fishing in parts of Sampson.

Royer of Granville—Provide against evils resulting from traffic in certain narcotic drugs and regulate sale thereof.

Harris of Wake—Prevent railroad collisions and provide for handling of trains by what is known as the block system.

Gordon—Amend charter of Piedmont Trust Company.

Message from Governor.

A message from the governor was received conveying a letter from the treasury department at Washington concerning titles to sites of various public buildings in North Carolina and the report of the insurance commissioner. Referred to Committee on Insurance.

New Bills Introduced.

By Mr. Breeze—to prohibit the collection from passengers on railroads which fall to purchase tickets any money in excess of the regular fare paid when they bought tickets. Committee on Railroads.

By Mr. Daniel—with reference to indictments quashed for the non-payment of taxes in suits by grand juries, Judiciary Committee.

By Mr. Drewry—to prohibit discrimination by life insurance companies, Insurance.

By Mr. Drury—to repeal the present "squirrel law," so far as it applies to Game Warden.

By Mr. Aycock—to declare life insurance policies personal property and subject to assessment for taxation purposes at cash surrender value. Committee on Finance, the bill being a "revenue raiser."

By Mr. Davis—Relating to dumping of sawdust in streams of Burke County, Cities and Towns.

By Mr. Graham—Appointing A. S. Barber a justice of the peace for Chapel Hill township, Orange county.

By Mr. Daniel—for a new division of the judicial districts of the state. Committee on Judicial Districts.

By Mr. Daniel—to amend chapter 53, private laws of 1897, as amended by chapter 388, Acts 1891, relating to the charter of town of Roanoke Rapids, N. C.

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PRESIDENT FINLEY GIVES SOUTHERN'S SIDE OF TROUBLES

in favor of the bill.

The purpose of the bill, he said, was merely to unclose the man who might come for a bad or hidden purpose.

Mr. Pugh of Dare said the bill would certainly cast a shadow of prohibiting all persons from coming to be heard unless they registered and thus be considered common lobbyists. Younger members need the help of constituents, and this would be shut off.

Mr. Peele of Scotland again offered the amendment exempting bona fide members of firms or corporations or agents of municipalities receiving their expenses.

Mr. Doughton sent forward an amendment of Mr. Doughton accepted, which exempts bona fide officers of corporations whose actual expenses are paid—Bill by Harris to Prevent Railroad Collisions.

The seventh day's session of the house was called to order at eleven o'clock by Speaker Justice, and Rev. G. B. Starling, pastor of the Brookly Methodist Church of this city, pronounced the invocation.

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