

Weather.

Washington, D. C., Jan. 2—Forecast for North Carolina for tonight and Sunday: Fair tonight, probably followed by increasing cloudiness.

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STARVING MEN FIGHT FOR FOOD IN RUINED CITY

More Earthquake Shocks Though of Small Proportions Add to Grief

THE CRY FOR HELP

Feared That Two Ships Loaded With Refugees Have Been Engulfed by Tidal Wave—The Cry is for More Ships and More Men to Aid in the Work of Rescue—King Victor Emmanuel Sends Urgent Message to Premier to Send Every Man Possible.

(By Cable to The Times.) Rome, Jan. 2—Survivors of the earthquake at Reggio and Messina, without food or shelter, today engaged in riots and troops were sent to quell them. Men were fighting each other for scraps of food found in the ruins.

More shocks and another tidal wave in the Strait of Messina have added to the devastation.

There is a fear that two ships loaded with refugees may have been lost in the tidal wave.

More towns were found to have been destroyed as the investigation proceeded.

King Victor Emmanuel, who is in charge of the rescue work at Messina, sent this dispatch to Premier Giolitti:

"Send ships, and still more ships. Send as many men as you can, and above all, send ships laden with quicklime."

Many victims are still alive in the ruins, but it is impossible to reach them. Horrible tales are coming from Calabria of fights between starving families for crusts and of fearful struggles for food and life between men and dogs. The terrors of famine and thirst are heightened by fresh occasional shocks of earthquake.

Few of the survivors dare to go beneath a roof. In the open the rain falls heavily, mercilessly and unceasingly.

On the Russian warship, which took many refugees to Naples, three babies were born. The mothers in these cases are making good progress. A Russian sailor offered to adopt one of the infants but the mother would not part with it.

An Englishman at Messina named Barret, after the first shock, found himself, his wife and his child buried under the debris of their house, which had completely collapsed. With difficulty he managed to extricate himself, but was unable to save his wife, and they, imploring help, died from suffocation almost within his reach. Men and women are literally dying of starvation in ruined Calabria and help arrives, but slowly; but a greater danger than that of starvation hangs over the devastated district and cities—the danger of pestilence. Hence his majesty's demand for quicklime. Thousands of corpses lie festering and immovable beneath the debris of the wrecked town and cities. Burial in many instances is impossible and pestilence is imminent.

Prowling dogs are busy, and carrion birds would spread epidemic. The streets are so encumbered with wreckage that the movements of the rescuers are very slow and the area to be gone over so vast that much time must elapse before all the crevasses, holes, cellars and heaps of ruins can be examined.

The city has been divided into zones and the work of rescue in each district is in charge of army officers. The soldiers continue to distribute bread and water to the survivors. The corpses being recovered throughout the city are being mutilated beyond recognition. The survivors are imploring the rescuers to search for relatives and friends.

The distribution of food has been organized. Bakeries have been opened and slaughter houses established and it is hoped that by today no one need be without bread.

The road between here and Messina is filled with refugees, who in the vast majority of cases have saved nothing. All their possessions are on their backs in the shape of tattered clothing, and in many cases the garments only partly cover the owners. The survivors say that there

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MRS. ERB TELLS STORY OF DEATH OF HER HUSBAND

Court Room Densely Packed as Widow Tells Story of Murder

DEFENDS HER SISTER

Crowd Listens With Breathless Attention As Mrs. Erb Relates An Astonishing Tale of Cruel Treatment. Defends Her Sister, Mrs. Beisel, For Turning Revolver on Her Husband and Shooting Him—Ejaculations of Horror Came From Spectators As Story Was Unfolded.

(By Leased Wire to The Times) Media, Pa. Jan. 2—With a densely packed crowd in the Delaware county court-room listening with breathless attention and the 12 jurors leaning forward in their seats to catch her every word, Mrs. Florence Erb related today an astounding tale of cruel treatment at the hands of her murdered husband, Captain J. Clayton Erb, and defended her sister, Mrs. Catherine Beisel, for turning a revolver upon him on the night of October 6 and slaying him in the hall of his country home, Red Gables.

The pale-faced widow, with girlish figure and youthful features, who, with Mrs. Beisel, is accused of plotting the death of Captain Erb, kept in the main to details at Red Gables as given yesterday by one of her attorneys in his opening speech to the jury. It was only an echo, however, a suggestion of the tale that was unfolded by her today.

In softly moderated voice, faltering only when the recollection of some particularly barbarous indignity threatened to bring on a fainting spell like that of yesterday, Mrs. Erb recounted treatment almost unheard of on the part of a husband who was supposed to love and cherish his wife.

Smothered ejaculations of horror came from the spectators as she described how Erb had once tried to "spread eagle" her on the floor of her room, securing straps with which to bind her arms and feet extended at full length. Rushing at her one evening at the dinner table and giving her crashing blows with both fists in the face, her husband had rendered her unconscious, she said, and caused her to spend days in a hospital.

Time after time she was rendered insensible or ill from her husband's onslaughts, going to sanitariums or other retreats. On one occasion when accused by her husband of trying to poison him and threatened by him with death, she fled to Virginia Hot Springs.

"My husband was killed while trying to kill me. He attacked me and, when I fought him off, he again tried to kill me. When my sister came to my aid he tried to kill her."

"Then when she wrested the revolver from him he was finally shot. "If the captain had attacked us like a madman he would not have been hurt. Even if he had gone to bed after the first attack there would have been no shooting, but he returned again and again to fight us. His killing could not have been avoided."

MEN WIN IN STRIKE.

Glass Works at Clarksburg Will Reopen on Flat Wage Scale. (By Leased Wire to The Times) Clarksburg, W. Va., Jan. 2—After a shut-down of several weeks, caused by a disagreement over wages, the Clarksburg Glass Company has come to an understanding with its employees and will resume operation under the flat scale, making the first blowing Sunday, at midnight.

The settlement is considered a victory for the men, who refused to work under the sliding scale. Prospects are good for resumption at other plants here.

Governor Hughes Inaugurated. (By Leased Wire to The Times) Albany, N. Y., Jan. 2—Charles Evans Hughes today for the second time was inaugurated as governor of New York state.

Few of the old line party leaders were in attendance, their places being filled by men who have come into state prominence with the rise of Governor Hughes.

Cathedral at Reggio, Calabria, Destroyed by Earthquake



Italy has stopped searching for the dead to aid the living. Every hour's delay in help may cost a thousand lives.

LIST OF TOWNS DESTROYED GROWS. Italy has stopped searching for the dead to aid the living. Every hour's delay in help may cost a thousand lives. The King has wired from Messina for ships with quicklime to avert the threatened plague. Estimates of the dead still go to 200,000. As investigation proceeds the list of towns destroyed grows. It is estimated that more than half the population of the devastated towns on the Calabrian and Sicilian coasts have been killed. Men and women continue to die from starvation, but the work of relief, though inadequate is becoming more organized. The two steamers of refugees believed to have been lost in a wave in the Strait of Messina are still missing. Relief contributions from various American cities amount to \$400,000. In New York \$75,000 has been turned into the Red Cross and \$17,000 to the mayor's fund.

Receivership Granted on Application of Railroad

(By Leased Wire to The Times.) Atlanta, Ga., Jan. 2—The Atlanta, Birmingham & Atlantic Railroad Company has been placed in the hands of a receiver by Judge Pardee, in the United States circuit court. President H. M. Atkinson and Vice President P. S. Arkwright, of the Railroad Company, were named receivers. It developed that the application for receivership was granted late last night but the fact was not made public until after the close of business at noon today. The receivership is granted on the application of the railroad company itself and is friendly litigation. It was made for the purpose of protecting the railroads interests and holding them intact. Interest on bonds to the amount of \$588,000 is now due and the company has found it impossible to meet the payment. The road places itself in the hands of the courts in the hope of preventing the various interests from being dismembered and to protect the bondholders from suit as the trustees will not foreclose on any of the roads properties. The receivers have taken charge of the road and there will be no interruption of its operation.

President-Elect Wm. Taft Confers With Cromwell

(By Leased Wire to The Times) Augusta, Ga., Jan. 2—President-elect Taft announced today that William Nelson Cromwell, the New York lawyer and capitalist, had been invited to come to Augusta to discuss cabinet matters. Judge Taft refused to disclose the exact nature of the matters to be discussed, but it is not believed Mr. Cromwell's visit will have any special political significance. Senator Henry Cabot Lodge, of Massachusetts, has arrived here and is in frequent conference with the president-elect. Secretary Loeb, Timothy Woodruff, of New York, and Senator Knox, it is also announced, are expected next week. Final decision will be reached by president-elect Taft this week as to whether G. Von L. Meyer and Wm. Loeb, Jr., will be in Taft cabinet.

PENNSYLVANIA GRAFTER HAS SWELL ROOMS

John H. Sanderson, Convicted and Sentenced in Pennsylvania is Sick

ILLNESS NOT SERIOUS

Says He is Not Seriously Ill and That He is Not Suffering From "Yellow Dogism"—Sanderson and His Associate Were Convicted and Sentenced to Two Years in the Penitentiary But Are Out on Bail—Sanderson Occupies Luxurious Apartments at Sherrys.

(By Leased Wire to The Times.) New York, Jan. 2—John H. Sanderson, a contractor of Philadelphia, who, with James M. Schumaker, William P. Snyder and William L. Mathews, was sentenced to two years' imprisonment each for defrauding the state of Pennsylvania out of thousands of dollars in connection with the decorating and furnishing of the new \$13,000,000 capitol building at Harrisburg, but who were released on bail pending their application for a new trial, is occupying apartments at Sherrys, where he has been under the care of a physician for several days.

Mathews, formerly state treasurer, died several days ago as a result of the humiliation following his arrest. Immediately after being granted bail pending their appeal, Sanderson came to this city and engaged apartments at Sherrys. Over the telephone Sanderson denied he was seriously ill, saying that he had been laid up for several days with a slight cold.

"I feel much better today," replied Sanderson in answer to a question. When asked as to the nature of his reported illness Sanderson replied:

"Well, if you care to do so, you can state most emphatically that I am not suffering from 'yellow dogism.'"

He said he did not know when he would leave the city.

WARFIELD GETS THREE YEARS.

Found Guilty in the Famous De Luxe Book Swindling Case. (By Leased Wire to The Times) Chicago, Jan. 2—Samuel T. Warfield was found guilty and his punishment fixed at three years in addition to the paying of \$2,000 in the famous De Luxe book swindling case and Willis N. Cooper was found "not guilty." The verdict of the jury, reached after a deliberation of five hours, and which was sealed, was rendered at 10 o'clock today and created a sensation in the court.

The alleged victims attracted a large crowd. Neither James A. Patten, the millionaire board of trade operator, nor his wife was present.

STRIKE OIL NEAR CLARKSBURG.

While Drilling For Gas, Oil is Found at Depth of 2,200 Feet. (By Leased Wire to The Times) Clarksburg, W. Va., Jan. 2—While drilling for gas in the lower end of this county, the Hope Natural Gas Company struck oil at 2,200 feet, and the well is good for 30 barrels daily. The section had been given up as dry long ago, and leases had been cancelled. The discovery of oil has caused a rush of oil men to that section, and every foot of ground has been leased, fabulous prices having been paid.

B. & O. Official Dead.

(By Leased Wire to The Times) Baltimore, Jan. 2—D. D. Carothers, chief engineer of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, died early this morning. He was taken sick early last week with what was at first supposed to be a severe cold. Later pneumonia developed and finally typhoid symptoms set in. His condition became alarming yesterday.

JUDGE YOAKUM DEAD.

Brother of B. F. Yoakum and One of the Most Prominent of Young Texas Attorneys. Dallas, Tex., Jan. 2—Judge C. H. Yoakum, general attorney for the Frisco lines in Texas, brother of B. F. Yoakum, chairman of the Rock Island and Frisco board, died suddenly yesterday afternoon at his home in Fort Worth of apoplexy.

Judge Yoakum was one of the most prominent of the young set of public men in Texas. He had served two terms in congress. He was 50 years old.

NEW SENSATION SPRUNG IN TRIAL OF NIGHT RIDERS

Mrs. Wad Morris Contradicts Her First Testimony and Corroborates Husband

WAS GUILTY OF PERJURY

Morris Swore That He Was With Band Night Captain Rankin Was Killed, But Wife Swore He Did Not Leave Home That Night. Now She Says Her First Testimony Was False and That Her Husband's Confession Was a True One—Was Under Threats.

(By Leased Wire to The Times) Union City, Tenn., Jan. 2—A sensation was sprung in the trial of the eight alleged night-riders today when Attorney-General Caldwell recalled Mrs. Wad Morris, the wife of Wad Morris, a self-confessed night-riider, who turned state's evidence. Wad Morris had sworn he was a member of the night-riders and that he was with the band on the night Captain Rankin was killed, but his wife swore he had not left home that night and that he was not a member of the organization. Today Mrs. Morris admitted that she was guilty of perjury and that her husband's confession was true. She declared that unknown parties threatened to hang her husband and herself unless she swore on the stand that Wad Morris had not left home the night of the raid. The woman's confession created great excitement in the court-room and apparently threw the defense into a panic.

MYSTERY SURROUNDS DEATH.

Bodies Found in Room With Gas Flowing From Jet. (By Leased Wire to The Times) Grand Rapids, Mich., Jan. 2—Deep mystery surrounds the death of Patrick Henry Prendergast, a rich Berlin farmer and Alice May McQuillen, formerly a school teacher in the Westside high school, whose bodies were found in a room in the Clarendon Hotel late yesterday afternoon.

Gas was flowing from a jet in the room and the woman's face was badly burned by acid of some kind. The body of Prendergast was stiff and cold when found, while that of the woman was still warm when found, and it is the opinion of the coroner that she had been dead only about 20 minutes. Prendergast is said to have come from Boston last Thursday, on which day he met Miss McQuillen. He is said to have been drinking heavily. Coroner Hilliker is investigating the case.

FIGHT AGAINST TUBERCULOSIS.

More Than a Million Dollars Spent in this Country. (By Leased Wire to The Times) New York, Jan. 2—According to the annual report of the national association for the study and prevention of tuberculosis, published yesterday, the year 1908 saw the most successful organized campaign against tuberculosis in the history of medicine. Measured in money, the report says, the fight against the great "white plague" in the United States cost more than a million dollars during the last year.

YOUNG MAN A SUICIDE.

Found Dead With Picture of Girl Tightly Clipped to His Breast. (By Leased Wire to The Times) Pueblo, Col., Jan. 2—With the picture of a beautiful girl, evidently his sweetheart, tightly folded to his breast and a telegram lying nearby, an announcing the death of his brother, the remains of W. H. Blacett was found in a room at the Gold Dust House, on South Union avenue. An empty laudanum bottle by his side told the rest of the story.

Blacett came from Champaign, Ill., where his family lives.

Mother and Baby Fall Fire Stories.

(By Leased Wire to The Times) New York, Jan. 2—Having fallen five stories through the dumb-waiter shaft at her home, 447 West 56th street today, Mrs. Rose Whelton, with her two-year-old baby in her arms, was picked up in the basement practically unburnt, while the baby was smiling as happily as if being bounced on his mother's knee.