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# The Evening Times

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## ERUPTION OF MOUNT ETNA TERRIFYING

### Stream of Lava is Headed For Catania a City of 150,000 People

## PEOPLE TERRIFIED

Mt. Etna Eruption One of the Worst in Years—Fully 5,000 People Are Homeless and a Stream of Lava 1,200 Feet Wide and 24 Feet High is Sweeping Down the Mountain With Catania, a City of 150,000 People Directly in Its Path—Many Smaller Towns Already Destroyed.

(By Cable to The Times.) Catania, Sicily, March 25—A red hot river of lava, 1,200 feet wide and 24 feet high, swept down the slopes of Mount Etna today, destroying all life in its path and turning the fertile country into a scene of desolation.

Fully 5,000 people are already homeless, their homes destroyed or menaced by the sweep of the lava.

In twenty-four hours it has advanced six miles, and half a dozen villages and settlements have been wiped out of existence or abandoned and thousands of acres of cultivated land turned into a smoking waste, covered with the molten mass that pours from a dozen craters.

A slight diminution in the flow of lava was noticed this morning and the news brought rejoicing to the scores of villages in which terror-stricken crowds have been praying constantly. This respite, however, was of short duration.

The constant rumblings which have marked the eruption since it started increased in volume today and the earthquakes became more frequent. The ground is in an almost constant tremble. More than seventy distinct shocks have been recorded.

Troops are rushing to the threatened towns to quell the panic and aid in saving the helpless. Reports received here today stated that eight soldiers had been killed at San Leo and Rimazzi, and that scores of inhabitants were injured in those towns when the lava reached them, after

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## WHITE DOVE OF PEACE ON CAPITOL

(By Leased Wire to The Times.) Washington, March 25—The white dove of peace perched victoriously on the capitol building today, but kept a weather-eye open for any missiles that might be thrown that way.

The democrats and republicans having selected their representatives on the rules committee for formal election today, everybody breathed a sigh of relief and then began to look around to ascertain what the outcome of the recent revolution in Washington will be. Ten days will decide the fate of the Taft legislation now before congress. What its fate will be is hard to tell with the insurgents and democrats holding the whip hand, but it is safe to say that most of it will be passed.

The election of the democratic members of the reorganized rules committee has smoothed the way for the formation of that body as outlined by the resolution the insurgents and democrats forced down the throat of Speaker Cannon. The quiet tone of the democratic caucus and the election of Representative John J. Fitzgerald in spite of a strong opposition to him because of his flop to Cannon a year ago, is taken as an indication of the general armistice.

The election of the four minority members: Champ Clark, of Missouri; Oscar Underwood, of Alabama, Lincoln Dixon, of Indiana, and Fitzgerald, on the first ballot was unexpected and caused much comment today.

The indications now are that Mr. Dalsell, of Pennsylvania, will be made chairman of the rules committee, in spite of his being a lieutenant of Speaker Cannon. He is the senior member, and was originally appointed to the old committee by Speaker Reed.

## SEVERAL DIE IN CHICAGO FIRE TODAY

### Fire Traps Girls In Furniture Store And Several Perish In Flames

## TWENTY ARE DEAD

Fire Breaks Out in Building in Which Thirty Girls Are at Work on the Top Floor—Twenty Girls and Three Men Believed to Have Perished in the Flames—Elevator Broke Down and Girls Were Trapped on the Floor Above—Girls Rush to Windows Where One by One They Succumbed to Suffocation.

(By Leased Wire to The Times.) Chicago, March 25—Twenty or more girls and three men, according to the estimates of firemen and employees, were burned to death today in a fire which destroyed the six-story building of the L. Fish Furniture Company, 1906 Wabash avenue.

Owing to the large amount of highly inflammable material with which the building was filled, the flames spread with incredible rapidity. One death was caused by a girl leaping from the sixth story window as the flames swept about her.

The flames trapped the girls at the windows, where they ran and screamed for aid after escape by the stairways had been cut off. The elevator, too, went out of commission with the first blast of flame. Hundreds of persons, unable to lift their hands in aid, saw the girls one by one drop back from the windows into the flames.

Isaac Fish, of the furniture firm, stated that there were seventy-five girls in the building when the fire broke out. He declared that the lives of the girls who ran to the windows on the fourth floor could have been saved had the firemen raised ladders from the roof of the three-story building adjoining on the south. Others severely condemned the fire department for what they called delay in getting the first streams of water on the blaze and for failure to put out life nets to catch the men and women who could be seen in the upper windows, screaming for help.

The unfortunate victims, waiting in vain for the life nets to be spread, allowing them to jump, could be seen to fall back, one by one, into the fiery furnace as the long tongues of flames reached them. Many spectators said that life nets would have saved most, if not all of the victims.

Crazed by the fire behind her, which had cut off escape by the stairways, one girl, Miss Ethel Lichtenstein, hung out of the fifth floor window for fully half an hour, while the firemen made not the slightest attempt to rescue her, according to eye witnesses. Some of the crowd made a rush, captured a long extension ladder from the truck, put it against the side of the building and attempted to climb up to rescue the girl. They were driven away by the firemen, who took the ladder down and threatened them with arrest but did nothing themselves to save the screaming girl. Several times the crowd attempted to regain the ladder and make the rescue, but each time, it is said, the firemen drove them away.

Finally the firemen, spurred to action by the indignation of the crowd, put up an extension ladder, which broke a window just under where Miss Lichtenstein hung. A dense volume of black smoke poured out in her face and she lost her hold and fell to her death.

A white man whose wife and three children slept in rooms on the third floor of an adjoining building, rescued them with the aid of a negro named Wingate. The two men crawled up the stairs and through the stifling smoke. Though scorched and singed by the flames, they made their way at last to the rooms occupied by the family. They found all four unconscious. The janitor carried out his wife and baby, while the brave negro crawled through the smoke and flames with the two other children in his arms.

When Chief of the Fire Department Hogan heard the charges against the firemen, he demanded an explanation of Battalion Chief O'Connor, who was the first commanding officer to reach the fire.

"When we got there," replied

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## SOME PEOPLE WHO ARE BEING TALKED ABOUT



Representative John Dalzell, who was Speaker Cannon's right hand man in the fight waged against "Uncle Joe" in Congress. The Speaker generally calls Mr. Dalzell to preside when he has occasion to temporarily leave the chair.



Supreme Court Justice W. O. Howard, who does not hesitate to rap his own party if he thinks it is needed. At a dinner of the Sons of St. Patrick in Troy, N. Y., Judge Howard condemned Senator Root and all of the legislators who are connected with the bribery scandal at Albany.



Ella Wheeler Wilcox, the author, who during a recent tour through Tunis and Algiers astonished the Arabs greatly. She has considerable knowledge of palmistry and tried it on an old Arab, telling him how many wives and how many children he had and also a number of events in his life. The old fellow told his friends and Mrs. Wilcox came near to being mobbed by men and women, who wanted her to tell their fortunes.



Miss Anne Morgan, daughter of J. Pierpont Morgan, the famous financier, who, according to cable report, is the latest matrimonial desideratum of Count Lion de Castellane, the erstwhile husband of Anna Gould, now the Duchesse de Tellegram.

## TRUST BUSTING IS BAD POLICY

(By Leased Wire to The Times.) New York, March 25—Europe looks upon the American agitation against the trusts as bad business policy, according to Daniel Guggenheim, president of the American Smelting and Refining Company, who with his brother, Isaac, returned today on the Lusitania after a six weeks trip abroad.

Mr. Guggenheim said that the anti-trust suits pending in the supreme court have weakened the market for American securities abroad and that Europe fears to invest in anything but gilt-edge securities pending the decisions in the Standard Oil and Tobacco trust cases.

"German merchants are talking bearish copper," Mr. Guggenheim said. "The reason for this is that they are trying to obtain all their copper from America at the very lowest prices. The demand is very strong abroad owing to the poor business conditions which exist in Germany."

"Business men of Germany look upon the American agitation against combinations of capital with curiosity. They are reversing our methods. The government is doing everything in its power to encourage all forms of combinations to that the highest possible prices can be obtained from German products. "I found on my trip that the agitation and many legal proceedings before the supreme court have had a decided effect upon the mind of Europe. This policy, they believe, is proving a detriment to the progress of our nation, and they look upon it as bad business policy."

## NEW COMMITTEE ON RULES. Meets and Elects Dalzell Chairman—Ready For Business.

(By Leased Wire to The Times.) Washington, March 25—The new house committee on rules met this afternoon and organized. Representative Dalzell, of Pennsylvania, received five votes for chairman and Representative Clark, of Missouri, three votes. Mr. Dalzell was declared elected chairman. The committee on accounts will provide for a clerk for the new committee. A room for the committee's use will be assigned today or tomorrow, after which it will meet and begin consideration of business now pending.

## Cabinet Held Meeting.

(By Leased Wire to The Times.) Washington, March 25—The cabinet held a meeting today for the first time since President Taft returned from his recent trip. While nothing was officially given out concerning the meeting, it was learned that the Canadian tariff situation was the chief matter considered.

## Assassin of Prince Ito Executed.

(By Cable to The Times.) Harbin, Manchuria, March 25—The assassin of Prince Ito, Inchanan-gan, the Korean fanatic, was executed today, at Port Arthur. He shot the older statesman here on October 26.

## COTTON SUPPLY FOR SIX MONTHS PERIOD

(By Leased Wire to The Times.) Washington, March 25—The census report issued today shows a total supply of cotton for the six months period ending February 28, 1910 to have been 11,552,361 running bales, made up as follows: 1,483,585 held September 1, 1909; ginned during period 9,974,998; net imports 93,778.

The distribution is 2,526,983 bales consumed; 4,599,682 bales exported; 1,654,331 bales held in mills; 1,932,521 bales held in independent warehouses; other stocks 818,844.

## HEARTY WELCOME BRITISH EXPLORER

(By Leased Wire to The Times.) New York, March 25—America today gave a hearty welcome to a foreign explorer, when Sir Ernest Shackleton, who got nearer to the South Pole than any other man, reached here. He came on the liner Lusitania, accompanied by Lady Shackleton.

"I beg to be excused," said Sir Ernest, when asked for his opinion of Dr. Frederick A. Cook's claim to having discovered the North Pole, but he gave an enthusiastic tribute and full credit to Commander Robert E. Peary.

Asked when he would make his next try for the South Pole, the British explorer said that he would not head any expedition while Captain Scott is attempting it.

"I have no doubt that the captain will succeed in reaching the coveted goal," he declared.

The Shackletons hurried to Washington where they are to be the guests of Ambassador Bryce of Great Britain till Sunday, after which the British explorer will begin a lecture tour.

Many honors have been arranged for Sir Ernest. He will be presented with a gold medal by President Taft, given by the National Geographic Society. Another medal will be presented Monday evening, when Sir Ernest will be the guest of the Pilgrim's Club here. This medal is presented by the American Geographical Society.

## BRODIE L. DUKE WINS NOTE CASE

(Special to The Times.) Durham, March 25—The jury in the Brodie L. Duke case last night about six o'clock returned a verdict answering every issue in favor of Mr. Duke.

The deliberation of something like twenty-six hours had various causes for its existence. From the start there was a big majority for Mr. Duke and when they arose yesterday morning it looked out that there were nine for the defendant and three for the plaintiff. If that happened to be true, there were ten later in the morning against two. There were also rumors that the ratio was exactly reversed. They were in all likelihood untrue. The jury filed in court twice to receive additional light, some of them desiring to know what "in duos courses" meant. There were seven issues submitted to them. Some of these read in such a way that the triers did not know in whose favor they were written. The result of the long wrangle was a verdict that gave the bank a set-back. There is of course the right of appeal.

The one thing operating most potently in favor of the defendant was the fact that the adventures, who had successfully worked the bank before she knew Mr. Duke, used the rich man not to secure more money, but to validate some of the notes she had previously executed and to save herself from prosecution. The bank's attorneys did good work to get the case so deeply into the minds of the jury as to give it weight.

The date set for the various usury cases is tomorrow. If they come up, Attorney A. E. Holton of Winston-Salem, will be here to assist his brother in his trial. All of these cases, five in number, are appeals from magistrate's courts, one of them being an appeal by both sides.

## SWITCHMEN DISPLEASED.

### One Crowd Gets Three Cents Raise and the Other Only Two Cents.

(By Leased Wire to The Times.) Chicago, March 25—The granting of switchmen of one organization an increase of three cents an hour and those of another only two cents in separate arbitration proceedings today caused a threatening controversy. The switchmen of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen demand that the wage scale for cities west of Chicago be made on the basis of the 3 cent raise granted the rival organization, the Switchmen's Union of America. A lengthy meeting was held with the railroad general managers. The railroad officials said they would submit the new proposition to their corporations.

## Will of Thomas C. Platt.

Oswego, N. Y., March 25—The will of former United States Senator T. C. Platt, who died March 6, was admitted to probate today by Surrogate George F. Andrews, of Tioga county. The will, one of the briefest ever filed in this county, makes Mr. Platt's three sons, Edward T., Frank H., and Henry B. Platt, full heirs and executors. The value of the estate is not given.

## BALLINGER WANTED TO GO ON STAND

### Brandeis Sprang a Surprise By Asking That The Secretary Be Called

## VERTREES OBJECTS

Attorney For Glavis Wanted Ballinger to Go on the Stand This Afternoon—Said the Secretary was Willing to Appear, But His Attorney Objected to His Going on the Stand at This Time and Committee Will Decide the Matter in Executive Session—Stephen B. Birch the first Witness Today.

(By Leased Wire to The Times.) Washington, March 25—When the Ballinger-Pinchot joint investigating committee resumed its session this morning Attorney Brandeis, who represents L. R. Glavis, sprang a surprise by asking that Secretary Ballinger be summoned to appear this afternoon. Mr. Brandeis explained that he desired to prove certain letters, papers and other documents by the secretary.

Attorney Vertrees, for Secretary Ballinger, entered an objection, declaring that Mr. Ballinger was the person most interested and that he (Vertrees) ought to have the discretion given him to call the secretary when he saw fit to do so.

In reply to a question by Senator Sutherland, of Utah, Mr. Brandeis admitted he regarded Secretary Ballinger as a material witness, and would very likely question him upon other matters than the papers and documents referred to.

"In other words, then," said Senator Sutherland, "you wish to cross-examine him before he testifies on the direct examination?"

"Well, I would not put it exactly that way," replied Mr. Brandeis, "but Secretary Ballinger has indicated his willingness to appear before the committee and testify at this time."

After Mr. Brandeis had been given an opportunity to state why he wanted Mr. Ballinger to appear this afternoon the committee decided to dispose of the question of calling Mr. Ballinger in executive session.

Stephen D. Birch, representative of the Alaska syndicate who testified recently before the senate committee on territories that the Guggenheims had an option on the Cunningham coal claims in Alaska, was then called as a witness by Mr. Brandeis.

Mr. Birch, in answer to questions, said he was managing director of the Alaska syndicate. This syndicate was composed of J. P. Morgan & Co., and members of the firm of M. Guggenheim & Sons. It was founded in March, 1906.

Asked what companies the syndicate was interested in, Mr. Birch said the Northwestern Commercial Company, the Northwestern Fisheries Company, the Copper River and Northwestern Railway Company, the Alaska Steamship Company, the Kenne-Cott Mines Company, and the Kattala Company.

"Are they all controlled by the Morgan-Guggenheim syndicate?" asked Mr. Denby.

"Some of them are controlled by the syndicate and in some of them the syndicate is only interested."

Mr. Birch said that the syndicate owned about 46 per cent. of the stock of the Northwestern Commercial Company in all 13,864 of the 29,000 shares of the company. The capital of the Northwestern Commercial Company was \$3,000,000.

## HEARING IN THE ROTTEN MEAT CASES

### Case of City Against Meat Men Proceeds In Judge Stronach's Court

## STORY OF THE MEAT

Witnesses Tell of the Discovery of the Rotten Meat—Market Keeper McRary, Dr. Roberts and Others Testify—Alderman Upchurch Says He Had Not Wanted Any Meat Since He Saw That in the Market House, which the Keeper Had Condemned—Dr. Crisman on the Stand.

This morning at 11 o'clock the trial of Swift & Co. and W. D. Vaughn for selling a pig to Sam Townes, which was unfit for food, was resumed.

City Attorney Clark served notice that he would take up the other two cases immediately after this one was completed.

All the evidence introduced this morning was by the defendant, and there were several interesting disclosures made, particularly when Mr. Nowell said he had seen hogs sold there in the market in as bad condition as the Townes hog. On cross-examination he was asked if he would have sold a hog in the condition testified to by witness yesterday, and he said he would.

Bob Hill. Col. Hinsdale announced that Bob Hill made a mistake while testifying for the state yesterday, and wanted to correct it. This was objected to unless the defense made him his witness and the court sustained the objection. Hill went on the stand and said he made a mistake when he said the Townes pig was weighed by Mr. Vaughn, as it was Mr. C. D. Barbee who weighed it. On cross-examination he said his attention was called to it by Mr. Barbee, who told him yesterday evening that he (Barbee), and not Vaughn, had weighed it, and he thought it right and said so. This refreshed his memory and he recollects it.

Mr. W. D. Vaughn. Mr. W. D. Vaughn, one of the defendants, was next called to the stand. He said he was an agent of

## CHARGES BROUGHT AGAINST MR. TATE

(By Leased Wire to The Times.) Washington, March 25—United States District Attorney Carter Tate, of Atlanta, is here for the purpose of meeting charges that have been filed against him with the department of justice, through Robert S. Ramsey, an investigator of the department.

At the department of justice it was said that nothing could be made public at this time as to the exact charges further than that they are the result of his "failure to indict certain persons."

A member of congress, however, who is a close friend of Mr. Tate, but who would not permit his name to be used at this time, said:

"I do not care to say anything about the matter just now, further than that the charges against Mr. Tate are trivial and without foundation, as will be shown in due time. I will add, however, that political jealousy is back of the charges and nothing else. When former President Roosevelt appointed Mr. Tate United States district attorney at Atlanta, three or four republicans down there were very much disgruntled, for they wanted the position for some republican friend of theirs and resented the appointment of a democrat. In the hope that they may get Mr. Tate's official head and thus secure the appointment of one of their republican friends they have instigated the present charges. That is all there is to it."

Thirty-three indictments. (By Leased Wire to The Times.) Pittsburg, Pa., March 25—The grand jury returned 33 graft indictments this afternoon. Thirty-one are new and two old.