

# SAN FRANCISCO LIES IN ASHES

Earthquake and Fire Bring Death and Desolation to City at the Golden Gate, the Number of Lives Lost Being Estimated at From 500 to 1,500 While the Monetary Loss is at Least \$200,000,000, and May Reach \$500,000,000—Residents Are Living in Public Parks and on Vacant Lots.

The fire at San Francisco has been gotten under control, but only after the entire business section of the city had been wiped out, but a few buildings on the outskirts being saved. It is impossible to estimate the loss of life, and the total loss will probably never be known. Various estimates of the number of dead are made, the figures being all the way from 500 to 1,000.

The property loss is estimated at from \$200,000,000 to \$500,000,000. A great many buildings were gutted and much may be saved from the wreck.

While every effort has been made to identify the dead, it is impossible to do so, many bodies being entirely consumed in the flames.

Extraordinary measures for relief have been taken. Congress has appropriated \$2,500,000, while gifts of from \$10,000 to \$100,000 have been sent by leading financiers of the country, and everywhere offers of assistance are made.

Carloads of food are being shipped to the suffering people, and everything possible done to relieve their distress.

The city will be rebuilt. Of that there is no doubt.

San Francisco.—The number of lives lost as the result of the earthquake on Wednesday, April 18, and the terrible fire which followed, will probably never be known, as undoubtedly many bodies were burned to ashes, and many will never be identified. But it is known that at least 500 are dead as the result of the terrible catastrophe, while scores of unidentified corpses have been dumped into trenches, unknown graves, for the sake of preserving the public health. The monetary loss as the result of the earthquake and subsequent fire is simply appalling, being placed at from \$200,000,000 to 500,000,000. Rolla V. Watt, western manager of the Royal & Queen Insurance company, and one of the most prominent insurance men on the coast, was asked if he would hazard an estimate on the financial loss and said:

"Something like \$200,000,000. I heard other insurance men estimate it at \$500,000,000. We do not know. It is simply too big for any human head to figure at this time."

After four days of chaos and such terrible destruction of property and human suffering as has seldom been witnessed in all the past ages, during which time almost the entire business portion of this great city and many of its most palatial residences were destroyed, either by earthquake or fire, the flames were brought under control in some portions of the city and had burned themselves out in other places for lack of further fuel to feed the hungry maw of the fire demon.

But what vast and terrible destruction. Few of the magnificent buildings of the city are left standing, and not a landmark that made the city famous remains. Nearly every house in the city is damaged.

The work of relief for the sufferers is going forward as rapidly as possible. The homeless are now being supplied with food enough for their pressing needs. Carload after carload of supplies from eastern points and from sister towns of the stricken city are being received and distributed, and it is believed that suffering from lack of food will not be great.

The greatest danger that now threatens the residents of the stricken city is the breaking out of a pestilence, which may be caused from inability to preserve sanitary requirements. But everything that can be done is being done to prevent such an occurrence. Vast armies of men will be put to work at once to formulate measures of protection for the public health.

That the city will be rebuilt, greater and grander than ever, there is not the shadow of a doubt. No sooner have the smoldering embers cooled than an army of men will commence the work of reconstruction. Men like James D. Phelan, Isaac Guggenheim, Herman Olerich, W. R. Hearst, and hundreds of others who have contributed to the upbuilding of the metropolis of the Pacific, have not lost heart, but are ready to make a new and

grandier city on the ruins of the old one.

The mail service of the city was resumed Saturday. Three hundred and fifty men are at work in the main office at Seventh and Mission streets, which escaped serious damage. Inspection by Lieut. George R. Armstrong and Postoffice Inspector O'Connell show that all but fifty bags of mail which went through the fire have been recovered and is now being handled expeditiously. Nine branch offices are in operation.

All trains are carrying mail into the city, and this is being distributed at the postoffice, which was only partially damaged. Branch offices under the co-authority of the postmaster and the military are established throughout the city and the adjacent hills where the refugees are camped.

All mail matter should be addressed to the old street number in San Francisco. Unless the new address is positively known. Money orders are being cashed as rapidly as funds can be secured. The postmaster has completed arrangements with the superintendent of the mint to convert into cash paper now on hand in the postoffice. All money orders will be paid on demand, and represent the only possible means of sending money into San Francisco at present. Letters are being accepted without stamps or envelopes and will reach their destination without delay.

Homer S. King, president of the San Francisco clearing house, is quoted as saying:

"The banks are more than willing to help the people who have shared in the common distress. Chicago and Baltimore recovered from even greater setbacks. The people of San Francisco have always been progressive and are recognized as hard workers. There is no reason why they should not do the same.

"The bankers will help to rebuild the city. We are absolutely satisfied and assured as to our own standing. Most of the money that is put into circulation will be directed into channels where it will be most effective in the re-establishment of business interests.

"You may state that the poor people and the wage-earners who have suffered loss by fire should not be needlessly alarmed. There will be no pressure for payment on the part of the banks. We will wait. We expect to co-operate in every respect with the people who must build the new San Francisco."

San Francisco is having a taste of martial law. When darkness falls upon the desolated city, every inhabitant of the homes that are left standing are forced to grope their way about in darkness, and when cooking is to be done, it must be done on fires built in the yards, as no fires are allowed inside the houses. This rule is made to prevent a further spread of the flames, and in order to save as many homes as possible, no chances are taken.

Mayor Schmitz has issued the following proclamation which citizens are instructed to observe:

"Do not be afraid of famine. There will be abundance of food supplied. Do not use any water except for drinking and cooking purposes. Do not light any fires in houses, stoves or fire place. Do not use any house closets under any circumstances, but dig earth closets in yards or vacant lots using if possible chloride of lime or some other disinfectant."

These precautions are being taken to prevent disease and the danger of pestilence.

**Burned District Boundaries.**

In the section north of Market street the ruined district is practically bounded on the west by Vanness avenue, although in many blocks the flames destroyed squares to the west of that thoroughfare. The Vanness avenue line runs northerly to Greenwich street, which is a few blocks from the bay. Then the boundary goes over Telegraph hill and down to that portion of the shore that faces Oakland. Practically everything included between Market and the bay is in ashes, Greenwich and the bay is in ashes. On the east side of Hyde street hill the fire burned down to Bay street and Montgomery avenue and stopped at that intersection. All south of Market street, with perhaps some exceptions in the vicinity of the Pacific Mall dock, is gone. This section is bounded on the north by Market street and runs out to Guerrero street, goes out that street two blocks, turns west to Dolores, runs west six blocks to Twenty-second street, taking in four blocks on the other side of Dolores. The fire then took an irregular course southward, spreading out as far as Twenty-fifth street and going down that way to the southerly bay shore.

**Mission Dolores church, the oldest building in this city, erected 130 years ago by the Spanish missionaries, survived the earthquake shocks and was saved from the fire. It is constructed of adobe brick. The newer church, built of brick alongside of the old building, suffered from the earthquake.**

## WERE ONCE RICH, NOW SEEKING WORK

Men and Women of San Francisco Waste No Time in Repeating, But Will Seek Employment.

Oakland, Cal.—Crowded by hundreds of refugees in search of aid, the relief stations that were hurriedly established in this city are now the scenes of great activity. Prominent among the departments of the stations are employment bureaus where men and women clamor to be put to work. The survivors are seeking work not only for the money that it will bring but as a relief for minds that have been sorely tried for the past four days.

Gathered among those who are searching for work are men who were in prosperous circumstances. Formerly rich and poor alike are willing to take any kind of employment that is offered. Women who were a few days ago the possessors of snug fortunes are temporarily taking places as do neetics that they may secure homes while order is being restored in San Francisco.

The heads of the employment bureaus announced Sunday that they would have work enough for nearly all applicants. Hundreds are being provided with transportation and sent to Utah, Nevada and portions of California to work on the proposed route of the Western Pacific railway.

## SHOCK CAME WHEN PEOPLE WERE SLEEPING.

San Francisco.—The earthquake occurred at 5:15 on Wednesday morning, April 18, causing fires to break out in a dozen localities and as the water mains were destroyed by the shock it soon became apparent that the firemen were powerless, and that the city was doomed to suffer the greatest conflagration of its history.

The great damage to the city was not from the earthquake, but from the flames following, which swept over the entire city, despite the heroic work of the firemen and citizens.

Many were killed by the falling buildings at the moment of the earthquake, while many of injured imprisoned in wrecked buildings were roasted to death. Every conceivable conveyance, from automobiles to hand carts, was pressed into service to convey the injured and dying to improvised hospitals.

Electric power was stopped and street cars did not run. Railroads and ferry boats also ceased operations.

Following the first shock there was another within five minutes, but no nearly so severe. Three hours later there was another slight shock.

This harrowing experience has been a testimonial to the modern steel building. A score of these structures were in course of erection, and not one of these suffered from the earthquake. The completed modern buildings were also immune from harm by earthquake. The buildings that collapsed were all flimsy wooden and old-fashioned brick structures. The damage by earthquake does not begin to compare with the loss by fire.

## WILL SOON HAVE PAPERS.

Journals of Stricken City Prepare to Resume Issues.

Oakland, Cal.—The San Francisco daily newspapers, all of which are burned out, are gradually getting it shape to serve their subscribers. On Thursday morning, the day after the fire, the best showing the morning journals could make was a small combination sheet, bearing the unique heading, "Call-Chronicle-Examiner."

It was set up and printed in the office of the Oakland Tribune. It gave a brief account of the great disaster, and took an optimistic view of the future of the stricken city. The papers, though still printed in Oakland, have appeared under their own headings, and with a few illustrations, showing scenes in the streets of San Francisco. It is expected that within a short time they will be able to replace their plants and present their former appearance.

## NATION READY TO GIVE MONEY

President Recommends Further Appropriation of Million and a Half.

Washington.—President Roosevelt on Saturday sent to congress a message, accompanying documents and papers from the war department, recommending the appropriation immediately of an additional \$1,500,000 for the relief of the sufferers by the calamity at San Francisco.

The president conferred with Secretary Taft, with Senator Allison chairman of the senate committee on appropriations, and with other senators and representatives, about the need of further aid for the residents of the stricken city, and a decision was reached that congress should be requested to appropriate the addition of \$1,500,000. Assurances were given by the members of congress that the appropriation would be made.

## Shot Down by Soldier.

San Francisco.—One of the younger sons of T. P. Riordan, a well known real estate dealer, was shot and instantly killed shortly before the noon hour on Saturday a few feet from his residence. Young Riordan was on his way home and had a bottle of whiskey in his coat pocket. The soldier on duty ordered him to stop and throw the whiskey away, and when Riordan refused, the soldier immediately shot him dead.

## FORTY BODIES TAKEN FROM ONE BUILDING

Many of the Occupants Incinerated, Only a Few Bones Being Left.

San Francisco.—Forty bodies were taken from a building at 119 Fifth street Saturday by the Red Cross service. The structure, which was a four-story wooden building containing three flats of ten rooms each, collapsed during the earthquake. At the time several persons were taken out alive from the upper stories, but it was thought that all the inmates had escaped. The ruins took fire shortly after, and although efforts were made to extinguish the flames the entire building was consumed. The bodies of the unfortunates imprisoned within the ruins were incinerated, only the skulls and a few bones being left.

## FIVE HUNDRED BODIES.

This Number Had Been Recovered From Ruins Sunday Night.

San Francisco.—The total of bodies recovered and buried up to Sunday night is 500. No complete record can be had at this time, as many bodies have been buried without permit from the coroner and the board of health. The searchers of the coroner's and the board of health departments on Sunday found not more than twenty bodies. They were buried immediately.

Few of these bodies could be identified and the graves were marked by numbers. It is impossible at the present time to obtain any sort of death list or even to make a reliable estimate as to the number of casualties. Whenever a body is found it is buried immediately, without any formality whatever, and as many of these burials have been made at widely separated parts of the city by different bodies of searchers, who do not ever make a prompt report to headquarters, considerable confusion has resulted in the estimating of the total number of casualties and exaggerated reports have resulted.

## CHINATOWN A MASS OF RUINS

Famous Section of San Francisco Falls Prey to Flames.

San Francisco.—Strange is the scene where San Francisco's Chinatown stood. No heap of smoking ruins marks the site of the wooden warrens where slant-eyed men of the Orient dwelt in thousands. The place is pitted with deep holes and seared with dark passages, from whose depths come smoke wreaths. All the wood has gone and the winds are streaking the ashes.

White men never knew the depth of Chinatown's underground city. They talked of these subterranean runways and many of them had gone beneath the street levels, two or three stories. But now that Chinatown has been unmasked, for the destroyed buildings were only a mask, men from the hillside have looked on where its inner secrets lay. In places they can see passages one hundred feet deep.

Hundreds of fright-crazed yellow men escaped from the flames, carrying with them their opium pipes, their money bags, their silks and their children. Beside them ran the baggy-troused women, and some of them hobbled painfully.

But these were the men and women of the surface. Far beneath the street levels, in those cellars and passages, were other lives. Women who never saw the day from their darkened prisons, and blinking jailers, were caught like rats in a huge trap. Their very bones were eaten by the flames.

And now there remains only the holes. They pit the hillside like a multitude of ground swallow nests. They show depths which the police never knew. The secrets of these burrows will never be known, for into them the hungry fire first sifted its red coals obliterating everything except the earth itself.

## Terrible Strain Begins to Tell.

San Francisco.—The terrible strains of the catastrophe have begun to tell on the people. The reaction has come as the result of the awful experiences through which the majority of the people have passed and the suspense over missing relatives and friends is causing serious illness and in some cases insanity. At Central avenue and Oak street a man whose name has not yet been learned became insane and attempted to kill his wife with a cleaver. He had to be taken into custody to prevent him from injuring himself or family.

## Monday and Tuesday Holidays.

Sacramento, Cal.—Gov. Pardee issued the following proclamation, declaring two more legal holidays: "In the interest of the public welfare, I, George C. Pardee, Governor of the State of California, by virtue of the power vested in me by the Constitution and laws of this state, do hereby appoint, designate and declare that Monday, April 23, 1906, and Tuesday, April 24, 1906, are public legal holidays."

## Not a Case of Serious Sickness at Golden Gate Park.

San Francisco.—Major Frank V. Keesting, first battery coast artillery National Guard, in charge of Golden Gate park, has made the following report to General Funston: "Beg to advise you that not a case of serious sickness exists in this park. All rumors to the contrary false and malicious. I will promptly advise you if there is any change or if anything of a serious nature occurs."

# OTHER TOWNS IN MOURNING

San Francisco Not Alone in Her Sorrow, Many Lives Being Lost and Much Property Destroyed in Other Towns in the Stricken State—San Jose and Santa Rosa Suffer Serious Losses, While Many Patients in Agnew Insane Asylum are Killed—Sacramento, Los Angeles, San Diego Escape.

San Jose, Cal.—Nineteen people were killed in San Jose and the entire business section wrecked. The estimated damage is \$5,000,000.

One hundred and ten were killed and several injured, mostly patients, at Agnew asylum. The building is completely ruined.

Stanford university, memorial church and other buildings are down, damage \$3,000,000. One student named Hanna and one other man killed.

Damage to Pacific Milling company at Santa Clara \$150,000, total loss there half million, no loss of life.

At Golroy about same amount damage, no dead.

At Salinas the Spreckles sugar refinery, valued at \$1,500,000, is completely destroyed.

Reports from Del Monte, Hollister, Watsonville, Monterey, Pacific Grove, Santa Cruz and other southern coast points show slight damage in comparison. At Hollister one man killed, \$100,000 damage. Narrow-gauge tunnel at Wrights, three-quarters of a mile long, caved in.

In Del Monte hotel a bridal couple from Benson, Ariz., Mr. and Mrs. Rouser, killed in bed by chimney falling.

The Moreland academy, a Catholic institution at Watsonville, is badly damaged, but no lives lost.

Bridges between Pajaro and Santa Cruz are badly out.

San Quentin prison is intact. The walls were cracked and a few chimneys were upset, but no farther damage was done. During the first big shock the convicts set up walls that could be heard for a mile. They acted like wild animals and tore at their trembling bars like maniacs. Warden Edgar called out all the guards, lined the walls and released the prisoners into the big yard.

A terrible landslide occurred on Loma Prieta mountain. Nine men were buried alive in their cabins at the Hinckley creek mill of the Loma Prieta Lumber company. The slide came down one side of the canyon and swept over to the other side, returning to bury the saw mill and the cabins in 100 feet of dirt. Another fatal landslide occurred at Deer Creek mill, just above Boulder creek. Two men, John Hannah and James Franklin, were caught in their cabins and killed.

## ONE HUNDRED DEAD SANTA ROSA'S LIST.

Ruin of Beautiful Town by Earthquake and Fire is Almost Complete.—Business Section Wiped Out.

Santa Rosa, Cal.—The list of known dead now totals fifty-eight and it is believed that 100 is a very conservative estimate of the number of people who lost their lives in the awful catastrophe which visited this city on Wednesday morning April 18. The entire business section is in ruins and practically every residence in town is more or less damaged, fifteen or twenty being badly wrecked. The damage to residences, however, was caused principally from the damage to the foundations, which let many structures down into the ground. The brick and stone business blocks, together with the public buildings, were all thrown flat. The court house, hall of records, the Occidental and Santa Rosa hotels, the Athenaeum theatre, new Masonic temple, Odd Fellows' block, all banks—everything went, and in all the city not one brick or stone building is standing except the California Northwestern depot.

Bankers and millionaires are going about with only the few dollars they happened to have in their pockets when the crash came, and are little better off than the laborers who are digging through the debris. Money has practically no value here now, for there is no place to spend it, and this phase of the situation presents its own remedy.

Almost every one here is sleeping out of doors, being afraid to enter their homes except for a short while at a time until repairs have been made. There are plenty of provisions. Some have been supplied by other towns and much has been brought in from the surrounding country. Two entire blocks of buildings also escaped being swept by the flames which immediately broke out in a dozen places at once as soon as the shock was over, and from the tangled ruins of these buildings complete stocks of groceries, clothing, etc., are being dug out and added to the common store.

## DEAD AT AGNEW.

Victims in Asylum Number 66 Dead; Many Injured.

Oakland, Cal.—Dr. Clark, superintendent of the San Francisco County hospital, telephoned Oakland concerning the situation at the Agnew insane

asylum near San Jose. Dr. Clark said that eleven employees and officers of the institution, including Drs. Kelley and Gell, were killed and twenty injured. Among the patients fifty-five were killed and 120 injured. All the buildings were completely demolished.

Dr. Clark went to Agnew in an automobile, taking four nurses with him, and materially assisted the remaining members of the staff to organize relief measures. Tents have been set up in the grounds of the institution, and the injured, as well as the uninjured, are being cared for. A temporary building is being erected to house the patients until other measures of relief can be taken. Dr. Clark said that there was absolutely no confusion and that he believed all the patients had been accounted for.

## FORT BRAGG DESTROYED.

Earthquake, Followed by Fire, Left the Town in Ruins.

Berkeley, Cal.—Private advices received here are to the effect that Fort Bragg, one of the principal lumbering towns of Mendocino county, was almost totally destroyed as the result of a fire following the earthquake.

The bank and other brick buildings were leveled as a result of the tremors and within a few hours fire had completed the work of devastation.

But one person of the 5,000 inhabitants was killed, but scores were injured.

## NO TIDAL WAVE.

San Diego Has Not Suffered From the Slight Shock.

San Diego, Cal.—All rumors that there has been a tidal wave or other disaster here are pure inventions. At 4:30 p. m. on Wednesday there was a light shock of earthquake. It did no damage whatever, and was so slight that many people did not feel it. Reports about a disaster to San Diego have been circulated during the past two days, and there is much indignation here over what seems to have been a deliberate attempt to injure the city.

## ALAMEDA WAS LUCKY.

No One Was Killed and But Few Buildings Wrecked.

Alameda, Cal.—Although but nine miles from San Francisco, this town did not suffer heavily from the terrible earthquake which caused such havoc in the great city across the bay. Chimneys fell and some buildings were wrecked, notably the Citizen's bank building, but no lives were lost and no one was injured. Alameda people are doing everything in their power to relieve the distress of their neighbors.

## Shock Slight at Los Angeles.

Los Angeles, Cal.—A combined request from the municipal officials and all commercial bodies of the city was made Saturday to send out a positive and unequivocal denial of the absurd stories in circulation throughout the east regarding the extent of the earthquake tremor experienced in this city. The shock was very slight and absolutely no damage of any sort resulted. Local officials are receiving inquiries from all parts of the country in reference to it that indicate that extremely erroneous impressions have been received.

## Tomales in Ruins.

Oakland, Cal.—A dispatch from San Rafael says: The town of Tomales is a pile of ruins. All of the large stores are flat. The Catholic church, a new stone structure, is also ruined. Many ranch houses and barns are down. Two children, Anita and Peter Couzza, were killed in a fall from a house about a mile from town.

## Sacramento is Safe.

Sacramento—Numerous inquiries from the east indicate some wide spread belief that Sacramento was partially or completely demolished. Not a dollar's damage was done. No crack in a building or a person was injured.

## REVOLVER FALLS FROM POCKET

Los Angeles Physician Shot While Helping Sufferers in San Francisco.

San Francisco.—Dr. Charles F. Taggart of Los Angeles, who had charge of a corps of nurses at the Hearst relief hospital in the Crocker grammar school on Page street near Baker was instantly killed on Sunday. A automatic revolver dropped out of his pocket. It discharged and the bullet passed through his heart. Dr. Taggart was one of California's most prominent physicians.