

# CONFLAGRATION, CHECKED, STARS ANEW IN SAN FRANCISCO, AND THOUSANDS ARE FACING STARVATION AND PESTILENCE

**Heroic Work and Liberal Use of Dynamite May Save a Portion of the Once Pacific Metropolis--Authorities' Greatest Problem is the Immediate Needs of the Sufferers--The Destitution is Indescribable--Many Hundreds of Dead Found in Three Hotels--Postal Clerks, Buried in Ruins Without Food or Water Three Days, Rescued Alive.**

San Francisco, April 20.—Plunged in absolute darkness tonight at 10 o'clock, San Francisco had not seen the conclusion of the devastating work of the conflagration that followed the earthquake of Wednesday morning.

The fire that started at Nob Hill and worked its way to the north beach, sweeping that quarter clean of buildings, later veered around before a fierce wind and made its way southward to the immense sea wall sheds and grain warehouses.

The flames were headed directly for the immense ferry building, the terminal point by ferry boat of all overland and local trains of the Southern Pacific Road.

The wind which at times amounted to

At present the supply station at Thirteenth and Franklin streets is empty as fast as goods are received.

Mayor Mott this morning addressed a circular to the bakers of the city of Oakland, Alameda and Berkeley, requesting them to continue work regardless of holidays.

The bakers have agreed to work their plants to their utmost capacity and to send all their surplus output to the relief committee.

At the headquarters of the relief committee is a registration bureau, where all are asked to register their names for the use of those wishing to find families or friends. In hurried flights, many families

Press expressed themselves as thankful that the fire was virtually controlled. Chief Dignan said that the order of the city was issued. He thought it due to the earlier severe measures taken by the soldiers and police in shooting down offenders.

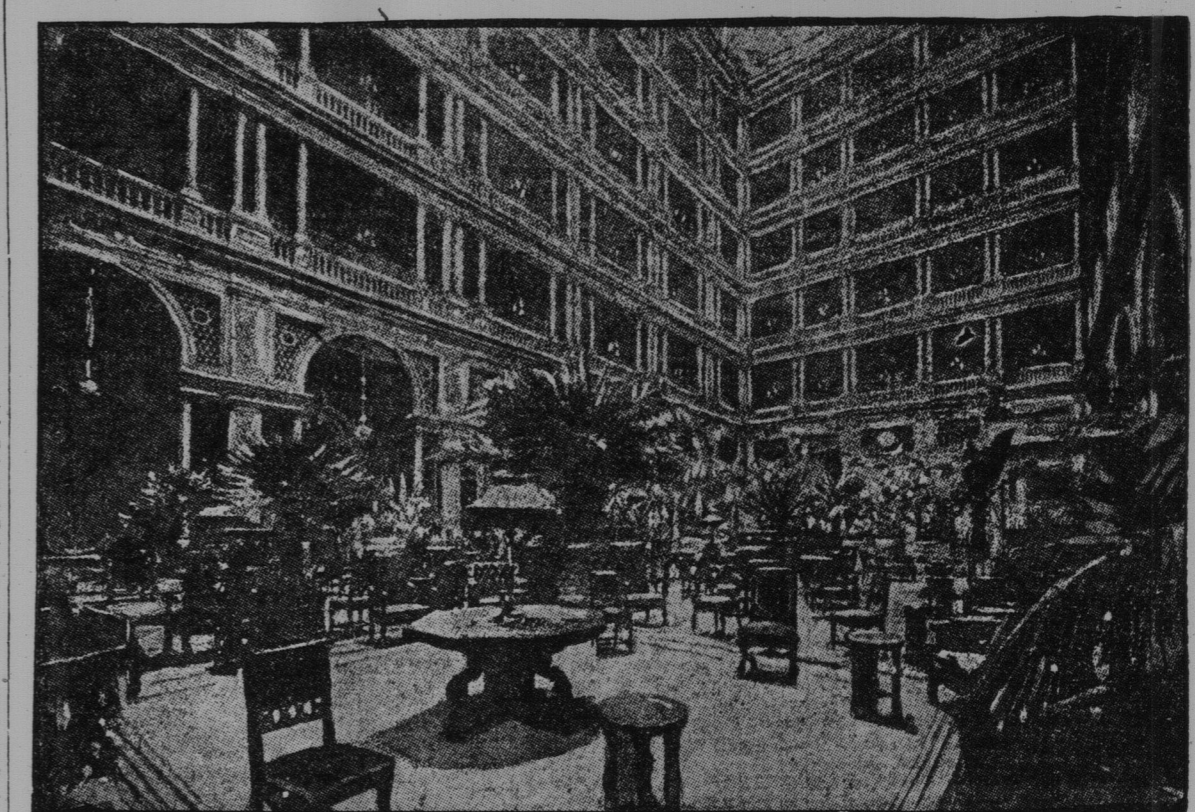
Two men were shot and killed this morning. Policeman Flood, on entering his home encountered a stranger who attacked him. Flood shot him dead.

Special Policeman Snyder killed a man but the details are not known. The only bank in the ruined district that escaped destruction was the Market Street Bank at the corner of Seventh and Market streets. It is in the gutted Grand building, but the firemen saved the ground floor. It will pay out money just as soon as it hears from the clearing house officials.

Disaster Wipes Out Social Distinctions.

San Francisco, April 20.—Next to viewing the many square miles of ruins that once made San Francisco a city no better realization of the ruin that has come to this place can be gained than by visiting the refugee camps located in the districts which were untouched by the flames. Golden Gate Park was the mecca of the destitute. This immense playground of the municipality has been converted into a vast mushroom city that bears striking resemblance to the floating towns located on the border of the lower Mississippi.

The common destitution and suffering have wiped out all social, financial and racial distinctions. The man who last Tuesday was a prosperous merchant is occupying with his family a little plot of ground that adjoins the open air market of a laborer. The white man of California has forgotten his antipathy to the Asiatic race and maintaining friendly relations day opened up a bureau of registration to bring relatives together.



INTERIOR OF GRAND PALACE HOTEL, WHERE OPERA STARS FLED FROM THE FLAMES



MAYOR SCHMITZ OF SAN FRANCISCO

In a gale, and darkness, added fresh terrors to the situation. The authorities considered the situation so grave that it was decided to sever in immediately 1,000 special policemen armed with rifles furnished by the federal government. In addition to this force, companies of the National Guard arrived from many interior points.

It was reported tonight that 35 white men had been shot and killed while attempting to work their way into the ruins of the United States sub-treasury on Commercial street. Two Chinese were shot and killed for refusing to obey orders of the soldiers.

Reports of babies born in the refuge camps were frequent. Five babies were born in Golden Gate Park.

Late this afternoon the police broke open every saloon and grocery in the saved districts and poured all liquors into the gutters.

San Francisco, April 20.—From a three story lodging house at Fifth and Mission streets, which collapsed Wednesday morning, more than 75 bodies were taken out today. There are fifty other dead bodies in sight in the ruins. This building was one of the first to take fire on Fifth street. At least 100 persons were killed in the Cosmopolitan on Fifth street.

The only building standing between Mission, Howard, East and Stewart streets is the San Pablo Hotel, which is completely destroyed.

The shot tower at First and Howard streets is gone. This landmark was built forty years ago. The Edison iron works is partly destroyed.

The Great Western Smelting and Refining Works, the Mutual Electric Light Works, the American Rubber Company, the Vista Gas Engine Company escaped damage.

Many persons dropped dead of heat and suffocation.

More than 150 persons are reported dead in the Brunswick Hotel, Seventh and Mission streets.

**Eleven Postal Clerks Rescued Alive After Three Days in Ruins**

San Francisco, April 20.—Eleven postal clerks were taken from the debris of the post office today. All at first were thought to be dead, but it was found that although they were buried, everyone was alive.

They had been for three days without food or water. All the mail in the post office was saved.

**Fire Practically Under Control.**

San Francisco, April 20.—San Francisco's darkest hour has dawned into a day of hope. Its time of overwhelming disaster and peril has ended and its future is now a subject of general consideration.

The fire is practically under control. A clear sky over the mission district shows that the fire there has been extinguished. The spread of the flames toward the western addition, the best part of the city remaining has been stayed, and the only portions of the conflagration that demand the attention of the firemen is that extending from the Nob Hill section down to the northwestern part of the water front.

The western addition danger was averted at 2:30 o'clock this morning by the use of gunnition, dynamite and two streams of water. The explosives were handled by the chief gunner of the Mare Island navy yard, and his achievements proved him to be a master of his profession.

The work of relief was started early today. A big bakery in the saved district started its ovens and arranged to bake 50,000 loaves of bread before night. Thousands of people were in line before the California street bakery. Police and military were present in force and each portion was allowed only one loaf.

For the relief of those persons who are camped in the various sections of the city everything possible is being done. In Golden Gate Park, where there are approximately 200,000 homeless persons, relief stations have been established. The Spring Valley Water Company has supplied water this afternoon, between 10,000,000 and 12,000,000 of gallons daily being available. Lake Merced will be taken by the federal troops and that supply protected.

**Telegraph Delivery Service Demoralized.**

San Francisco, April 20.—The delivery of telegraphic messages from outside points to people in San Francisco is an impossibility. The messenger service of both the big telegraph companies is no longer exists. Even had the companies an army of messengers, they would be of little value for the reason that the people are scattered far and wide and that a journey from the ferry building to the west-

terrors of a two days' effort to escape from the stricken city. Mrs. D. M. Johnson, of Ukiah (N. Y.), and Miss Martha Stubbale, of Erie (Pa.), passed through Denver today on their way home.

"The first that we knew of the earthquake was when we were awakened in our room at the Randolph hotel Wednesday morning by a terrible shaking, which broke loose fragments of the ceiling," said Miss Stubbale. "Then followed a tremendous shock, which turned the building upside down and tossed it about with something like a spiral motion. When we reached the street, people were running hither and thither."

"Someone passing advised us to get on as high ground as possible, and we started walking as fast as possible to the high park back of the city."

"I saw one man pay \$2,000 for an automobile in which to take his family to a place of safety."

"Before night we reached the summit of the Alta Plaza. People half dead, unfeeling, hysterical, searching for loved ones, crowded the ground. Beneath lay the

residences was caused principally by the sinking of the foundations. The court house, Hall of Records, the Occidental and Santa Rosa hotels, the Athenia Theatre, the new Masonic Temple, Odd Fellows' Hall, Athenia Bank were damaged, but are still standing.

It is impossible for anybody to realize the situation as it really exists here. No such complete destruction of the city's business interests ever resulted from an earthquake. The very completeness of the devastation is truly the redeeming feature though, for it has leveled the walls to the ground.

Bankers and owners are going about with the few dollars they happened to have in their pockets when the crash came and are no 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. Almost every one is stopping 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.

Before the fire gained headway several grocery stores were emptied of their contents in anticipation of what might follow.

The city is under full martial law. Company C, of Potluma, having been called to assist the local militia in preserving order. Many deputy sheriffs and special policemen have also been sworn in but no trouble yet has occurred, and none is expected. The relief committee is active and well managed and all in need of assistance, receive it promptly. The work now requiring the principal attention of the authorities is the removal of the wreckage in order to search for the bodies of those missing. Forty marines, under command of Captain Holcomb, arrived today and did special work in assisting in the search.

**Thousands More Flee in Despair.**

Oakland, Cal., April 21.—Driven from the San Francisco water front, which was almost swept away by fire last night and early this morning, thousands of San Francisco homeless sought refuge in this city today. The survivors crossed the bay in ferry boats, tugs and launches, and were met at the Oakland wharves by large relief committees, which at once set about the work of relieving the needy and suffering.

Those seriously injured were at once sent to the hastily improvised hospitals, and food was provided for hundreds of hungry persons.

Rigid inspections were made for contagious diseases, and a number of persons were placed in quarantine.

Along the principal streets of Oakland there was a picturesque pilgrimage of former householders, who dragged or carried the meagre effects they had been able to save. The survivors, who could not be cared for in Oakland made an exodus to Berkeley and other surrounding cities, where relief committees are actively at work.

Utter despair was pictured on many faces, which showed the effects of sleepless days and nights and the want of proper food.

Despite the fact that nearly all churches, skating pavilions and large halls of the city have been converted into temporary lodging places, there will not be room enough tonight to accommodate all the people who have surged into Oakland. The effort to maintain even ordinary sanitary arrangements is a serious task, and medical men of the city are engaged in taking immediate charge of the refugees who became ill.

Employment bureaus have been hastily established and able-bodied men who are willing to work on railways and other large construction schemes in various parts of California and Nevada, are furnished with free transportation to the scene of the labor. It is believed that many men will be provided with work within the next few days, and that the present congestion will not last.

**Newspapers All Burned Out.**

Oakland, Cal., April 21.—The San Francisco daily newspapers, all of which were burned out, are gradually getting into shape. On Thursday morning the best showing the morning journals could make was a small combination sheet, bearing the heading: "Call, Chronicle, Examiner."

It was set up and printed in the office of the Oakland Tribune, and gave a brief account of the great disaster and took an optimistic view of the future of the stricken city.

Yesterday and today the papers, though still printed in Oakland, have appeared under their 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.

First Antidote—"Hello, old man, I don't see you out on the road as much as I used to."

Second Antidote—"No, my new machine doesn't break down so often."

burning city, and as nightfall came on, it presented a scene indescribable.

"The sleeper saw the government boat coming in the bay, and said if we could reach the Presidio wharf we could escape on her."

"We therefore hurried toward the Presidio, greatly impeded by fissures which stretched long distances and around which we had to make our way. At the Presidio we were taken on board with other refugees, and a short time later we were safe in Oakland."

**Santa Rosa Business Section in Ruins.**

Santa Rosa, April 21.—The list of known dead now totals 58 and it is believed that 100 is a conservative estimate of the number of persons who lost their lives in the awful catastrophe which visited this city.

Five bodies were recovered today from the wreckage and the search has hardly begun.

The entire business section is in ruins and practically every residence in town is more or less damaged. The damage to

the only wire running out of San Francisco, that of the Postal, was accidentally severed this morning by a workman on the cable wharf and for hours the city was again cut off.

**Graphic Story of Woman Refugee.**

Denver, Colo., April 22.—Every incoming train from the west brings refugees from San Francisco, who tell sorrowful stories of their experiences and give graphic descriptions of the horrors that followed the earthquake and fire.

Worn by the exposure, hardships and

addition or to the refugee camps consumes many hours. Most of the automobiles have been impounded into the service of the police or military authorities and these have but one circuitous route to one telegraph station at the water front to municipal headquarters and the university of the northern waterfront line. Nearly every other street has been made impassable by the fall of the portions of buildings.

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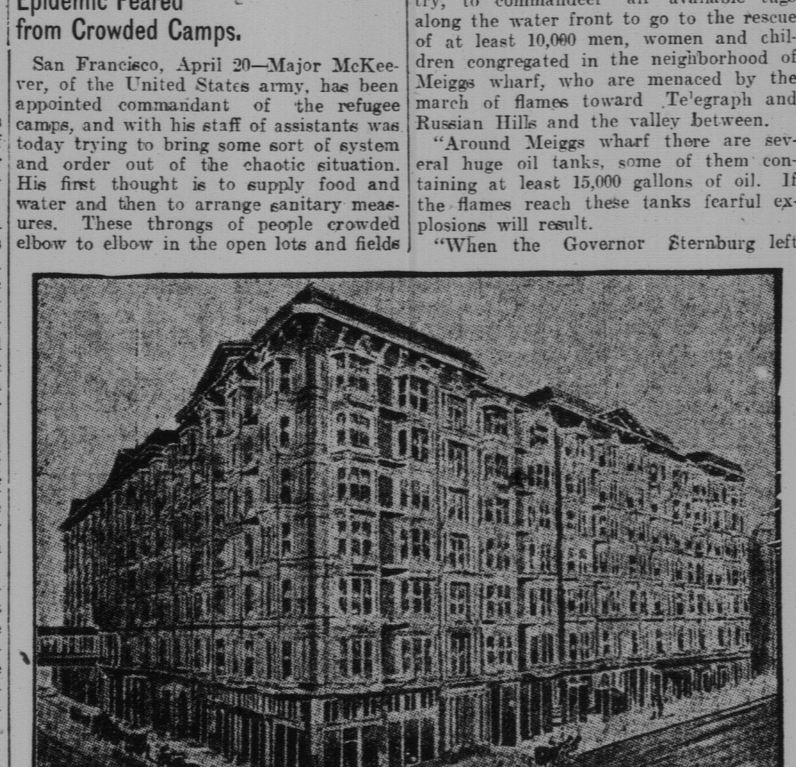
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EXTERIOR OF GRAND PALACE HOTEL

without conveniences that are naturally denied, are threatened with an epidemic of disease unless some wise precautions are speedily observed, and authorities even as early as yesterday had begun constructing necessary outhouses.

Good order and fellowship seems to prevail in these temporary settlements, and the supplies are evident from the temper of the city administration. No distinctions are drawn and only few favors are shown.

The grave question is: "How soon will an adequate supply of food arrive from outside points, and avert famine and destitution. There is little food in San Francisco outside of what little each person possesses, and this cannot last more than

Meigs wharf the whole of that portion of North Beach seemed doomed. The people are flocking to the wharves and crowding into all available craft."

**Mayor Orders No Fires in Stoves.**

San Francisco, April 20.—Mayor Schmitz issued the following proclamation today:—"The fire is now under control, and all danger is passed. The only fear is that other fires may start should the people build fires in their stoves, and I therefore warn all citizens not to build fires in their homes until the chimneys have been inspected and repaired properly. All citizens are urged to discontinue the building of fires. I congratulate the citizens of San Francisco upon the fortitude they have displayed, and I urge upon them the necessity of aiding the authorities in the work of relieving the destitute and suffering."

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