

The Semi-Weekly Telegraph

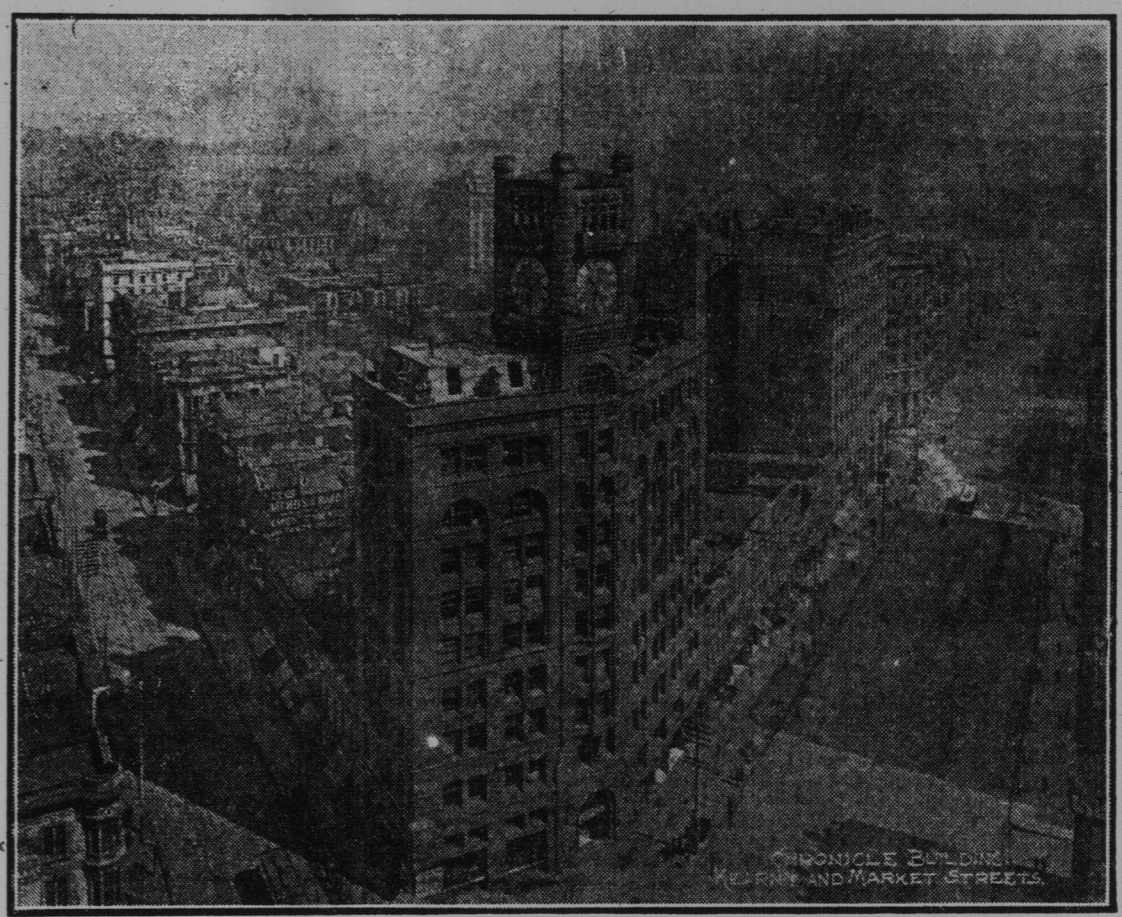
VOL. XLIV.

ST JOHN, N. B. SATURDAY, APRIL 21, 1906.

NO. 60

SAN FRANCISCO'S DOOM IS SEALED; FLAMES NOW SWEEP ENTIRE CITY

Whole Population is Homeless and Record of Ruin Grows More Appalling Hour by Hour---One Mile of Finest Residences Blown Up Thursday in Vain Effort to Check the Devastating Fire--Food is Scarce and Even the Wealthy Have Hard Time to Get Any---Population Fleeing in All Directions--Chief of Police Says "City Will Be a Heap of Ashes by Saturday"--St. John's Growing Relief Fund.



VIEW OF KEARNY AND MARKET STREETS IN WRECKED SECTION, SAN FRANCISCO; THE LARGE BUILDING IN THE CENTRE IS THE CHRONICLE OFFICE

San Francisco, April 19--Practically the entire city has been burned or is now burning. The fire cannot be checked but must exhaust itself in the outskirts of the city. Nearly the whole population is homeless, and even the wealthy people can, with difficulty, buy food.

All efforts to check the spread of the flames at Van Ness avenue by blowing up a mile of buildings on the east side of the avenue proved fruitless.

The fire has spread across the broad thoroughfare, and from present indications the entire western addition, which contains the homes of San Francisco's wealthier class, is now doomed.

The destruction of the western addition of San Francisco completes the work of the devouring flames, and marks the devastation of the entire city.

Metropolis of the Pacific Coast in Ruins and Ashes.

San Francisco, April 19.--San Francisco tonight is the city desolate. It seems that the acme of its misery was reached at dusk when the flames burst from all sides of the beautiful hotel Fairmont, the structure that above every other was apparently most strongly entrenched against the attack of the all-consuming fire.

And surrounding that lofty pinnacle of flames as far as the eye could see to the south, to the east and far out to the west lay in cruel fantastic heaps, charred and smoking, all that remained of a prosperous city.

The metropolis of the Pacific coast was in ashes. This has been another day of an uneven struggle of man against an unconquerable element. Acre after acre has been ground into dust and ashes, despite the heroic perseverance of the firemen to limit the conflagration.

Tonight there is a hope that the worst has been nearly reached and that when tomorrow's dawn comes, the end will have come; but the hope is faint.

San Francisco is not discouraged. Its best and highest class has already begun to plan for restoration and care for the stricken ones.

and the relief will be immediate and effective. Total subscriptions of \$150,000 were announced tonight. Arrangements were made for the immediate relief of the needy.

The baking of 50,000 loaves of bread daily will begin tomorrow. Free transportation will be provided by the Southern Pacific R. R., to destitute persons desiring to go to the interior points.

The Distinct Fires Hazing.

San Francisco, April 19--It was announced that tomorrow there would begin a deluge of water from the city's 10,000,000 gallons of water.

Tonight, for the first time, direct telegraphic communication was re-established between San Francisco and the outside world, and this message had the honor of being the first to be sent. By the most energetic efforts in the face of great obstacles, the Postal Telegraph Company succeeded in restoring one of its lines of service to normal in a day or two. The Postal office tonight is in a little wooden structure erected on piles at the water front.

Tonight three distinct fires were burning. One was in the territory that extends from Nob Hill eastward towards the waterfront. It is a very lowly, but not very far from the city center. The second center was in the Mission district. Here the fire had reached Eighteenth street, but was making little headway toward the hillsides to the west, where thousands of people are camped.

The third and most dangerous fire is that threatening the western part of the city. This is really a continuation of the Nob Hill fire. It is wedge-shaped, with the apex pointing forward. This is the point against which the firemen are battling their greatest efforts. Dynamite was used for back fire in places with only fair success. Tonight many blocks may be blown up.

Chief of Police Dwan tonight said 250 would cover the number of dead. About fifty bodies have thus far been found. There was evidence of a shooting of looters today, but the offenders escaped with wounds.

Thousands Flee Before Flames.

San Francisco, April 19--Thousands upon thousands of people are fleeing from the fire today, which is raging through the city. They are flocking to the ferries, to

Deicide to Blow Up Sixteen Blocks.

The military was notified and barrels of gun powder, the only remaining explosive in the city, were taken from the arsenal, Fort McDowell, Alcatraz and other nearby posts. Hundreds of police, regiments of soldiers and scores of volunteers were sent into the doomed district to warn the people to flee. The populace heroically responded to the demand of law and went bravely on their way, trading pain-fully for the pavement with the little they could get together. Every available wagon was taken by the military to carry powder.

General Funston is cooperating with Mayor Schmitz and orders have been issued to all officers to kill without winking the malefactor. When men have been needed to carry out the plans of rescue, they have been pressed into service. In a few instances it was necessary to resort to the revolver and drawn swords, after which there was no hesitation. The Presidio reservation, the vast Richmond district of thousands of acres, Golden Gate park, and surrounding hills resemble one vast circus ground. Tents and iron-roofed covers have been erected everywhere. Impresarios built in the best and fattest horses thrown down all over the section. The people thus situated are philosophical.

Food Supply Low

But there is the one great danger for the homeless and that is that the food supply will run out. Every grocery in San Francisco has been taken by the authorities and each family is being sold only one article at a time. In many places the police and soldiers prohibit overcharging. General Funston announced this morning that rations would soon

reach the city and then the people will be supplied from the Presidio. Bakers have already begun to bake within the reservation and the bread supply therefore has not failed completely. The government also has begun to aid in the flight of the people to Oakland, Berkeley and Alameda. The tug boats and steamers are being pressed into service for this purpose and there is a vast army on the way to the ferries.

From the water front the burned city can be seen today in all its smoky nakedness. From the Pacific Mail dock to Van Ness street on the west side, a distance of two miles, wreckage and ruin is the rule. Although the fire did not jump East street, the damage has been enormous.

The ferry across itself is out of plumb and big buildings are much twisted by the earthquake. Looking up Market street from the ferry building the city is a smoldering mass of ruins. Great manufacturers, mercantile houses, banks and office buildings are nowhere to be seen and only in spots is there so much as a tower, the monument of a burned structure.

Today was bright and warm. The sun beat down on the tired workers and rescuers. There is scarcely any water to relieve the thirst of the suffering. The dead, in many instances, are lying in the streets and the ruins. The authorities are doing all in their power to remove the bodies in order that a pestilence may be prevented. It has been necessary repeatedly to move the injured from places where they had sought refuge, for the fire kept increasing with alarming rapidity. Water is the most want of the firemen and the people; one wants it to fight, the other to drink, but there is only a scant drinking supply.

Thrilling Story of Man Who Fleed.

Salinas, Cal., April 19--(By long distance telephone, to Lewiston.)--S. P. Anthony, a business man of Pacific Grove, arrived in this city today, having made the trip from San Francisco by automobile. Mr. Anthony is the first eye witness to bring direct information from San Francisco. He says that he was sleeping in his room at the Ramona Hotel on Ellis street, and awoke and was suddenly awakened at 5:25 yesterday morning. The first shock that brought him out of bed, he said, was appalling in its force. The whole earth seemed to heave and fall. The building where he was housed, which is six stories high, was lifted from its foundation and the roof caved in. Mr. Anthony says he saw a score or more of people killed. Women became hysterical and prayed in the streets, while men sat on the curbing appearing to be dazed. It was twenty minutes before those in the vicinity seemed able to realize the extent of the catastrophe. The crowds became larger and in the public squares of the city, and in empty lots thousands of people gathered.

It was 9 o'clock before the police were in control of the situation. When they finally assumed charge the officers directed their energy toward warning the people in the streets away from danger, many buildings being on the point of toppling over. Mr. Anthony says he was walking on Market street, near the Emporium, about 9 a. m., when a severe shock was felt. At once the street filled again with with excited persons and thousands were soon gathered in the vicinity, almost

paralyzed with fear. Before the spectators could realize what had happened the walls of the building swayed a distance of three feet. The thousands of bystanders stood spellbound, expecting every moment that they would be crushed, but another tremor seemed to restore the big building to its natural position.

Flames Drove Thousands.

Mr. Anthony said that he momentarily expected that with thousands of others who were in the neighborhood, he would be crushed to death. He made his way down Market street as far as the Call building from which flames were issuing at every window with the blaze shooting out of the roof. A similar condition prevailed in the Examiner building across the street. He then started for the depot at Third and Townsend streets, determined to leave the city. He found several thousand persons headed in the same direction. All south of Market street, about that time was a crackling mass of flames. He made his way to Eighth and Market then down Eighth to Townsend and to Third street and the entire section which he traversed was ash, making it impossible for him to reach his destination. He attempted to make his way back but found that retreat had been cut off by the flames. He then went to Twelfth street and reached Market street again in order that a pestilence may be prevented. It has been necessary repeatedly to move the injured from places where they had sought refuge, for the fire kept increasing with alarming rapidity. Water is the most want of the firemen and the people; one wants it to fight, the other to drink, but there is only a scant drinking supply.

San Francisco a Heap of Ruins.

San Francisco, April 19--The magnitude of the calamity that has befallen San Francisco became apparent this morning when a red sun arose above the horizon and dispelled the pall of darkness that hung over the stricken city. Looking eastward from the heights in the central portion of the city, everything attested to the fact that the city had been consumed and flame. Where once rose noble buildings now stand nothing but frail walls, tottering chimneys, heaps of twisted iron and huge piles of brick and mortar. Adding to the horror of the situation was the fact that the work of destruction has not reached its conclusion. In several sections the fire was still raging with unabated vigor, converting into smoke and ashes everything in the shape of combustible material and turning into ruins structures that had cost millions of dollars.

It was with saddened hearts that the community viewed the ruins of their city, but the extent of the devastation has yet come to be fully realized. The people

are seemingly half dazed by the magnitude of the disaster, and it will be some days before the full horror of the situation comes home to them.

Possibility of famine is already presenting its hideous face. At best the city never carried more than three days' supply of provisions and food, and now with the wholesale districts and warehouses wiped out there is a shortage of food already. Prices today were in most instances more than trebled. An Associated Press man was obliged to pay twenty-five cents for a glass of mineral water in the Hayes Valley district. That half of the city has been laid waste and not a drop of water is to be had there except bottled mineral water.

Police Regulate Sale of Food.

This morning policemen were stationed at some of the retail shops regulating the sale of foodstuffs and permitting only a small portion of goods to be delivered to each purchaser, the idea being to prevent a few persons from gathering in large quantities of supplies. Reports were received that numerous men caught in the act of looting had been shot. The military is unusually strict in the enforcement of the order to a soldier's orders. One man on Market street, who was found digging in the ruins of a jewelry shop, was discovered by a naval reserve man and fired upon three times. The fellow sought safety in flight, but the reserve man brought him down by running a bayonet through him. The bodies of three thieves were found lying in the streets on the south side this afternoon.

It is impossible to verify the many reports of shooting that are coming to the press representatives. Concerted action of any kind, in fact, is out of the question, and almost every official is acting on his own responsibility, it being a physical impossibility to communicate with superior authorities.

Yesterday some sort of systematic communication could be had by means of automobile, but today every street is piled high with ruins and to add to this trouble there is constant danger from falling walls. On miles of streets the front walls of ruined buildings still stand, swaying with the concussion of distant dynamite explosions and the rising winds. Frequently a crash of stones and brick, followed by a cloud of dust, gives warning to pedestrians of the ureality of travel.

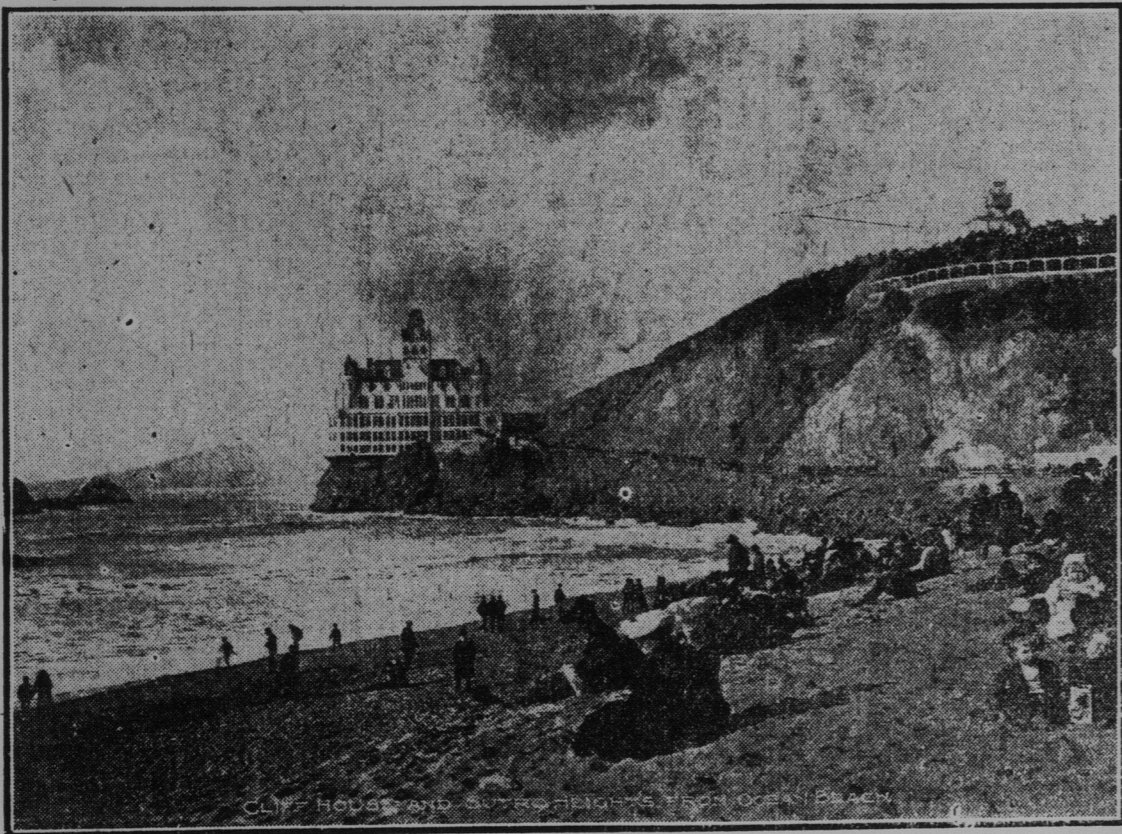
All manner of reports of deaths and disaster are coming to the temporary headquarters of the authorities, but these reports are received guardedly, allowance being made for the likelihood of exaggeration due to the confusion that prevails in the stricken city.

Roosevelt Issues Appeal for Aid.

Washington, April 19--President Roosevelt, after a conference with Miss Mabel Boardman, of the American National Red Cross, today issued in the form of a proclamation, an appeal to the American people for aid for the people of San Francisco. He asked that all contributions be made through the officials of the American National Red Cross, who have effected systematic arrangements for the distribution of the needed assistance.

Congress Votes \$1,000,000.

Washington, April 19--The president at 8 o'clock tonight signed the joint resolution appropriating \$1,000,000 for the relief of the San Francisco earthquake sufferers.



THE NOTED CLIFF HOUSE AND SUTRO HEIGHTS, SAN FRANCISCO, SEEN FROM OCEAN BEACH

ST. JOHN RELIEF FUND FOR SAN FRANCISCO SUFFERERS.

THE TELEGRAPH and THE TIMES have started a fund for the relief of the afflicted people of San Francisco. Each paper has subscribed \$1,000 for the fund, and asks readers to join in the work of mercy and send in contributions, large or small, to help those in need. The necessity is in the immediate present, and promptness in giving will render the work of the donor the more effective. THE TELEGRAPH and THE TIMES will receive contributions, will acknowledge them and forward the sums promptly to the mayor of San Francisco.

Though the fund was opened only yesterday morning a large number of generous contributions were made. St. John people need not be reminded of the warm sympathy and practical aid given them when the fire scourge visited this city. The fearful tales the despatches bring from San Francisco should be an incentive to all to stretch forth a helping hand and do it at once. The entire city has been burned over.

JOHN BOND will call upon as many as possible in the interests of the fund, but it is hoped most people will send their contributions to THE TELEGRAPH or TIMES offices as the time is short. The following amounts are acknowledged:--

FOR THE SAN FRANCISCO SUFFERERS.

Table listing donors and amounts: The Daily Telegraph, \$1,000 00; The Evening Times, 1,000 00; Manchester Robertson, All son Ltd., 200 00; George A. Kimball, 100 00; James Macolm, 5 00; John Jackson, 1 00; W. W. Johnson, 5 00; Jos. Bulcock, 10 00; R. D. Smith, 1 00; Knights of Columbus, St. John Council No. 937, \$100 00; A Friend, 1 00; A Friend, 1 00; F. Tutts & Co., 5 00; Jas. Patterson, 1 00; A Friend, 1 00; J. M. Johnson, 100 00; Total to date, \$2,531 00.