

Loss of Life Is Now Estimated At Thousands

Of the fire across Market. At Bush street the big Mills building is the center of business life, and contains the offices of a large number of San Francisco law firms. Further up Market the Flood building is the principal one between the Call building and the city hall, which is at the head of the street. The closing of these buildings for business work will of course paralyze the city. The loss of life, it is thought here, will be greatly lessened on account of the fact that the people were mostly asleep in the residential district, and that the fire broke out so far in no way indicate a general loss of life through the residence section.

LOCAL TELEGRAPH OFFICES.

The news of the calamity spread with astonishing rapidity around the city and in a short time both the Western Union and the Postal Telegraph local offices were besieged with anxious people begging and beseeching that they be given preference to wire through to friends and relatives. Manager May of the Western Union estimates that before 11 o'clock fully 2,000 people had entered the office with requests that they be given preference to wire through to friends and relatives. Manager May of the Western Union estimates that before 11 o'clock fully 2,000 people had entered the office with requests that they be given preference to wire through to friends and relatives. Manager May of the Western Union estimates that before 11 o'clock fully 2,000 people had entered the office with requests that they be given preference to wire through to friends and relatives.

LAST OAKLAND MESSAGE.

The last message to be received from Oakland was delivered to E. R. Pell, a resident of San Francisco, who is a guest at the Wilson. Shortly after 9 o'clock he received a message from his partner, John Sward, dated from Oakland, which stated: "Conditions so bad can't describe them." Up to noon Vice President and General Manager W. H. Bancroft of the Western Union, who has been working hard to get into communication with General Manager E. E. Calvin of the Southern Pacific in San Francisco, called to hear from any Southern Pacific officials. The only information obtainable being meager details from Sacramento.

WALLACE MUCH CONCERNED.

One of the pathetic cases was that of W. R. Wallace, whose wife and two little boys are stopping in a downtown hotel. He was nearly frantic with anxiety and had been over the city since 1:30 for the scene of the disaster. He filed messages at both offices and made the round of the newspapers in hopes of hearing something definite. The assurance that the Palace hotel in San Francisco was uninjured failed to bring him comfort. "I can't help looking on the dark side of things," he said, "of course there is a possibility of rescue because the Palace is built of wood and the St. Francis of steel and stone, but the hotel my little ones are in is a brick structure."

A BRIGHTER VIEW.

Most Allen was more optimistic. After reading a bulletin that had been posted downtown to the effect that Berkeley was totally destroyed, he said: "That's all right. Berkeley comprised mostly of little frame houses, this would take all kinds of an earthquake to shake them down. But he went into the telephone office and filed a message to his mother in addition to the one Allen has two sisters in Berkeley, one attending the college and the other the high school. In this connection the Berkeley story is being interpreted in various fashions. One San Francisco man in the crowd volunteered the opinion that if Berkeley had been destroyed it was the big Southern Pacific ferry bearing that name."

SALT LAKERS THERE.

Despite assurances, there are plenty of anxious people in Salt Lake today. Among those are a number anxiously awaiting a word from their own. Mrs. J. J. McClellan heard from her husband yesterday from San Francisco, but as he was going to Los Angeles before returning home, it is possible that he is on the way there at this time and knows nothing about the disaster. E. C. Edson, who rooms at the University club, has a wife and sister in San Francisco. John Edson, a well-known salt drug man, C. D. Taylor, of Bradstreet's; Henry Cohn, John E. Dooly, Joseph Cohn and others all have members of their families in San Francisco.

Among other Salt Lakers believed to be in San Francisco are J. William Clawson, Mrs. Mary Clawson, daughter of John Clark, Mrs. Clara Clawson, Mrs. Clara Cummings and family, Mrs. R. J. Shields, a sister of David Shields, and Sylvia, daughter of David Shields. President Robinson and the "Mormon" Elders laboring in that city. Another Salt Laker who is very anxious and uncertain by the telegraph office is W. C. Shoemaker, traveling freight agent for the Colorado & Southern, who recently sent Mrs. Shoemaker and his boy to San Francisco for a change.

STILL OTHERS.

Mr. and Mrs. George M. Downey, Mr. George F. Downey, U. S. A., Mrs. Maylan T. Fox, George H. Wetmore, Mr. Harry Hill, George M. Scott, Charles W. Pratt and wife (at the Buckingham), Charles Lawrence, E. N. Wilson, Henry Newell, M. M. Johnson, Will Cunningham, J. J. Daly (probably), Ed Sheets, Huchey (the ball player), John Lovell, Mrs. William R. Wallace and two children, Albert McCormick, Will Mays, the parents of Druggist Mathis of this city, the wife and daughter of Enright, the sheepman, Mr. St. Nicholas hotel, E. E. Darling, Lorenzo Snow, Jr., Mrs. Florence R. Woodruff (at Oakland), the family of Joe Eisenberger (at Berkeley), M. D. Grosh of this city has two brothers, one in Berkeley, one in Grosh, and two sisters, Mrs. W. R. Lazzere and Mrs. O. G. Sage, living in San Francisco.

THROUGHED TELEGRAPH OFFICES.

These are just a few of the Salt Lakers who, through the telegraph offices in the hope of getting messages through or receiving word from the absent ones. Among the San Francisco people here is E. R. Pell, who is stopping at the Kenyon, was early striving to get into communication with his partner to find out if possible what damage had really resulted. He is vice president and manager of the Mirmont company, manufacturers of photographic papers, 427-428 Stockton street, San Francisco, and treasurer of the Anglo-California bank. When he was informed that the fire was spreading in the direction of his business, according to the press bulletins received, he turned to his wife and said: "It looks as though we will have to begin all over again, dear." Mrs. Pell did not seem to be worrying particularly, as she said with a smile: "Well, Frank, we are safe and are lucky to be out of it all."

DAY OF DOOM AND DISASTER.

(Continued from page 1.)

another big fire in that section of the city.

WHERE FIRE STARTED.

A portion of the Mission several miles from the business section of the city is in flames.

The fire began at Twenty-second street and is rapidly moving eastward. Should the wind increase it may sweep the entire southern section of the city.

In Oakland five persons were killed by the collapse of the Empire building.

The Gore block, at the junction of Market and Pine streets, is in flames and probably will be a total loss.

SPREADING OF FLAMES.

A fire which broke out in the Mack wholesale drug company, 13 and 15 Fremont street, threatens to destroy the entire block. On California and Pine streets the fire has reached to Sansome street.

From Pine and Dupont streets the fire has reached to Sansome street.

From Pine and Dupont streets fire can be seen raging in all downtown districts. A brisk westerly wind is coming up and the destruction of the entire business district is threatened.

Several persons are thought to be pinned under the wreckage of the fish market streets between Sacramento and Clay and Commercial streets.

On Fourth and Tehama streets an entire family was caught in the collapse of a building.

The hall of justice is momentarily expected to fall. The city hall is almost entirely destroyed. Damage here is estimated at half a million dollars.

FIRE REACHES MARKET.

The fire has reached Market street near Third. The building next to the Claus Spreckels building at Third and Market is in flames, and the fire extends along the south side of Market to Fourth.

The following buildings on New Montgomery street, between Market and Mission, have been entirely destroyed.

Telephone company, Rialto building, Mission and Market, the Natoma building on Second and Market, the 12-story Mutual Life building on California street and Sansome has been entirely destroyed.

APPROACHING BIG HOTEL.

The fire is coming up Market street and is now less than one block from the Postal Telegraph building. The Palace and Grand hotels are in great danger of fire. The Postal Telegraph company and Commercial Cable company will open a temporary office at Oakland as soon as a boat can be procured to carry the operator across the bay. The fire, however, is so fierce between Market street and the bay that it is impossible to reach the boat at present.

MACHINE SHOPS COLLAPSE.

The Santa Fe roundhouse and machine shops at Point Richmond, across the bay, have collapsed.

The earthquake was not seriously felt at other points along the coast so far as can be ascertained.

AS TO THE DEAD.

At 10:55 a. m. the fire extends from Ferry to Front street on one side and to about seventh street, with sporadic fires in the park section and the western division.

There is no way of estimating the number of dead. It may be hundreds, any water and it is impossible to say when the fire will stop. People are coming out of the Palace hotel. The Postal Telegraph operators who are at their posts are taking their lives in their hands, as the building is collapsing and the fire is within half a block. The California Examiner buildings are liable to go at any moment.

TWENTY-ONE BODIES RECOVERED.

At 9:45 a. m. Twenty-one bodies have been taken to the morgue, which cannot accommodate any more.

Mayor Schmidt established headquarters at hall of justice and has appointed a committee of 20 prominent citizens. The military is patrolling the streets, guarding the banks and other establishments. They have received orders to shoot anyone on sight.

PALACE HOTEL BURNING.

The Jessie street side of the Palace hotel is burning. A burning district at this hour runs from South street on the west to the water front on the east, south of Market street. North of Market street from Sansome to the three-mile section of railroad track between Suisun and Benicia, which are on the direct line between Sacramento and San Francisco. The road crosses some lowland at the point where the tracks are reported sunk by shocks.

The location of this reported sinking of the earth is about 30 miles from San Francisco.

NEWSPAPERS WITHOUT POWER.

The newspapers having had their power cut off, have combined and will issue one paper from the office of the Chronicle, which has its own power.

There was a great rush at the different banks by depositors who wanted to draw out their deposits but the banks decided to keep their doors closed. By order of the chief of police all saloons have been closed. The damage already inflicted is estimated roughly at \$40,000,000.

WHOLE CITY THREATENED.

The fires are spreading rapidly and unless the wind comes up from the west and blows the flames toward the bay nothing can stop the destruction of the city.

CALL BUILDING DOOMED.

Fire has taken hold of the Call building on Third street side, and flames are now burning fiercely in the interior of the building, but as yet the flames have not spread beyond the fourth floor. The building is also threatened on the Market street side, only one structure separating it from the flames, which extend everything on the south side of Market street from Fourth almost to Third.

MONADNOCK BUILDING FALLS.

The back of the 11-story Monadnock building now nearing completion has fallen out, and the flames threaten to cause great fire loss, the front of the Monadnock was badly cracked by the earthquake.

Although the fire is raging on all sides of the Palace hotel, it has not yet taken fire. The previous report that the Palace hotel had caught fire is erroneous. The flames are rapidly spreading to the Postal Telegraph company's building, and are within a block of the Associated Press and Western Union buildings. The Postal company is preparing to vacate, and then will shut off all telegraphic communication with the outside world.

From present indications entire business district, both wholesale and retail, will likely fall a prey to the flames, which are fanned by a stiff breeze.

A. P. OFFICE WRECKED.

Shock came at 5:15 this morning with frightful results.

New York, April 18.—The Postal Telegraph office at San Francisco was wrecked and communication was lost at 5:50 New York time.

At about 9:40 the Postal Telegraph company had communication with its San Francisco office but lost the connection again almost immediately. In the brief period that the wire was working the San Francisco office reported that a number of buildings had collapsed and that the dead and injured were being taken from the ruins as rapidly as possible.

This message came through the principal danger was from the fire, a number of which had started and were making great headway owing to the wind.

The electric lighting plant of the city has failed and gas mains are disrupted. The damage extends through the entire city.

The Postal building was badly wrecked and the operator's room is out of use.

The Western Union telegraph office at Ferry street in San Francisco, the most severe shock ever known.

A telegram from Sacramento to the Western Union telegraph company reports that three miles of railroad sank out of sight as a result of the earthquake between Suisun and Benicia, and all wires were taken with it. At Pleasanton there were several cars burned on the main line, blocking trains. At the time of receiving this dispatch the Western Union had been unable to get into communication with San Francisco.

At 10:40 o'clock this morning, the Postal company received the following message:

"At 5:15 this morning a terrible earthquake shock was felt in San Francisco. The damage in the district east of Market street, practically destroying six or eight blocks in the manufacturing and wholesale districts. The banking district was seriously damaged, although small damage had been done over the whole town. Many persons have been killed and injured and a portion of the town has been cut off. The earthquake was felt all over the city. They are dynamiting several of the buildings."

The Associated Press office was also badly damaged.

At 11:05 the Western Union received a report that a serious fire is burning at Berkeley, where the state university is located.

The report came from Placeta, a station 10 miles out of San Francisco, and the nearest point to the latter city, which the company had been able to raise up to the time of this dispatch. Berkeley is between Placeta and San Francisco.

It is also reported that the earthquake shock was severely felt throughout Nevada.

The Postal Telegraph company received information that the greatest damage from the earthquake was done to the main line, blocking trains. Druma, Davis, Front, Battery, Sansome, Montgomery, Kearney, Spear, Main, Real and Fremont.

The Western Union received a report from Sacramento that the Southern Pacific railroad will attempt to get a train into San Francisco, starting from Sacramento and taking a circuitous route through the valleys, which is on the Bay of San Pablo. From that place the passengers will be taken by boat to San Francisco. This course was made necessary by the sinking of a three-mile section of railroad track between Suisun and Benicia, which are on the direct line between Sacramento and San Francisco. The road crosses some lowland at the point where the tracks are reported sunk by shocks.

The location of this reported sinking of the earth is about 30 miles from San Francisco.

BUSINESS NOTES.

Today's local bank clearings amounted to \$1,154,401.45 as against \$704,392.89 for the same day last year.

The second quarterly dividend of 1 per cent on the independent Telephone Co. stockholders was mailed yesterday.

The Call and Examiner newspaper blocks were both badly damaged.

San Francisco, April 18, 8 a. m.—In the confusion which reigns everywhere here it is almost impossible to learn details of the catastrophe. In general it may be said that the business district between Market and Howard streets, from the bay as far west as the city hall, has been badly wrecked. The hotels near Third and Market streets were badly shaken up but there seems to have been no loss of life. The Call and Examiner buildings, as well as the Western Union building, have been badly wrecked. The large apartment stores in this neighborhood were also ruined but the earthquake occurred at an hour when they were empty and no loss of life is reported. Further east on Market, toward the ferry clips, is a section occupied by cheap lodging houses and hotels, and here the loss of life is reported to be very great, though the extent of it could not be ascertained at this hour.

Fires are burning in a number of places along Market street and the water mains having burst, the authorities have resorted to dynamite to check the flames. The residence section of the city, while badly shaken, reports no loss of life or serious damage.

Mrs. W. A. Snowden, 109 Milton St., Dedham, Mass., says: "I want every sick woman to know the curing power of Hood's Sarsaparilla. I have been cured of the most dreadful skin disease which Hood's Sarsaparilla cured. This medicine purified my blood and invigorated my whole system."

PARADOXICAL GREAT MORGUE.

Three Hundred Dead Bodies Have Been Collected in Single Building.

RELIEF FROM LOS ANGELES.

Special Train Bearing Supreme Court Judges and Newspaper Correspondents to Leave at Once.

Los Angeles, April 18.—Information from San Francisco is that Mechanic's pavilion is being used as a morgue. Three hundred dead bodies are reported already gathered at that place. The wind is blowing a gale, and the flames are said to be making headway.

The shock of the earthquake was felt as far south as Santa Barbara. The fact that Oakland and San Jose and other bay cities have not been able to communicate with Los Angeles would indicate that they, too, have suffered from the shock.

A special train carrying the supreme court, now in session at Los Angeles, will leave here in a few hours. The train will also take newspaper correspondents and probably may offer assistance if it is needed. Gen. Funston, commander of the Presidio, has turned out the entire force of soldiers at that point, and establish martial law in San Francisco. The city has closed every saloon in the city.

There is a jam of panic-stricken people at the ferry, seeking to cross the bay to Oakland. Fires are raging everywhere, and the firemen are using dynamite. The Palace and Grand hotels have been destroyed.

Mayor Schmitz has sent to Oakland for more dynamite.

Fires are reported at Oakland, Alameda and Berkeley.

The Call and Rialto buildings are ablaze. The lofty Call building is swaying and expected to topple over. The Southern Pacific building next door to the Postal Telegraph is a ruin.

POSTAL IN RUINS.

The Postal building is almost an entire wreck, but communication is maintained with Los Angeles on a single wire.

The Sunset Telephone building on Bush street and the W. U. at Pine and Montgomery streets are entirely wrecked.

Up to 11 o'clock about 400 dead had been brought to Mechanic's pavilion, and others were coming in all the time. The soldiers are maintaining order as far as possible, but the population has no thought of anything but escape from the city. Shocks continue at intervals. At 9:20 and at 10 o'clock there were heavy shocks that did further damage and brought increased panic. The Nevada bank block, and the W. U. buildings at Pine and Montgomery are utterly demolished. A lodginghouse at Second and Stevenson buried many victims, six having been taken out. It is said buildings were destroyed at Berkeley about 100 miles south of San Francisco.

Nothing has been heard from San Jose and other cities south of San Francisco, the coast.

When the first shock occurred at 5:15 a. m., most of the population were in bed and many lodgingshouses collapsed, with every occupant killed or injured. The shocks continued at intervals.

First came a slight shock followed almost immediately by a second and then the great shock that sent buildings tumbling in all directions. Every able-bodied man who could be pressed into service was put to work rescuing the victims. Panic seized most of the people and they rushed frantically about the city. The fire building there was a rush of those fleeing to cross the bay, some carried their effects and some were hardly dressed. The streets were filled with the panic-stricken people and the shocks sent them into unreasoning panic. Fire lighted up in every direction in the breaking dawn. In the business district devastation met the eye on every hand. It is reported that two ships at anchor in the bay were sunk.

The area bounded by Washington, Mission and Broadway streets, extending to the bay front, is devastated. This represents the heart of the handsome business section.

TROOPS ORDERED OUT.

Steps Being Taken for the Relief of Sufferers as Far as Possible.

Gen. Funston called all the available troops for service if necessary in the emergency.

The board of supervisors will meet immediately to take necessary measures for relief and protection of the sufferers by disaster. Chief of the fire department is Sullivan, in a very precarious condition. Both he and his wife were injured.

At 11 o'clock, San Francisco time, the employees of the Postal Telegraph company had to leave their office on account of the fire. At the time they left the Palace hotel and the Grand hotel were not yet on fire, but were in immediate danger. The militia is in charge of the town.

CONFUSION EVERYWHERE.

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SAYS OIL WELLS WERE THE CAUSE.

San Francisco Visitor Declares They Are Responsible for Earthquake.

A TREMENDOUS PRESSURE

Has Been Removed by 10,000 Wells in California Oil Zone, San Francisco Being Over Deepest Deposit.

L. W. Blankman, who has been all of his life a resident of San Francisco, and who is at the Kenyon today, accounts for the earthquake in a rather unexpected fashion. He declares that the hundreds of thousands of barrels of oil that have been tapped from the California fields, and the great flow of natural gas which has recently been brought into service for commercial consumption, must have removed a tremendous pressure from the strata of earth below San Francisco.

AWFUL PRESSURE OF GUSHER.

"I have seen," he declared, "these oil wells breaking loose with a force sufficient to lift the strata 200 feet in the air, and then I have seen this same oil evaporate from 22 to 17 in gravity, showing that it was charged with gas, kept in it by the immense pressure, and escaping as soon as the natural pressure of the outer air was reached."

Continuing to explain his theory that the earthquake was the result of the draining of these underground oil fields, Mr. Blankman stated that all the oil fields in California appear to be connected. The oil basin grows deeper to the north from Los Angeles, indicating that the strata are being pushed up that way, and by its own weight would cause an earthquake if the pressure of the oil and gas were removed from below it.

DEEPENS NEAR SAN FRANCISCO.

At Los Angeles the oil is encountered near the surface, and has a high flash test, showing that the strata is not great, while at San Francisco the oil is encountered four or five times as deep, and is near Stockton, east of San Francisco, and has no flash test, as it is charged with gas which evaporates under the lower pressure of the natural air very readily.

TEN THOUSAND WELLS.

"Altogether," concluded Mr. Blankman, "there are now over 10,000 oil and gas wells operating in California, and you can readily see what a tremendous pressure they have taken off the roof of the calderas in which the oil has been collecting through the centuries."

Of course I am not a scientist, and I am sure this idea is all wrong, but it strikes me as a possible explanation.

Mr. Blankman tried all morning to get into connection by telegraph with the folks, but up to noon was unable to do so.

RAILROADS DEMORIALIZED.

Tracks Sink and Operation Impossible Under Existing Conditions.

Sacramento, April 18.—All the plans for running trains on the western division of the Southern Pacific railroad between this city and Oakland were knocked out this morning by the terrific earthquake shock. In fact, a train dispatcher at the city and Oakland were knocked out of business from the fact that it had no telegraph wires operating to San Francisco and no connection could be had by telephone.

But the cause of the trouble was not one-half the cause of trouble for the railroad officials. A short time after the big shock came a message from Suisun, Suisun county, saying that a long section of railroad track had disappeared from view. It was learned later that at one place between Sprick and Teal stations, in the Suisun marshes, for a distance of one mile and a half, the track had sunk down from three to six feet, and at another point nearly 1,000 feet of track went over a sand bar and disappeared. Trains which should be dispatched this morning had to be brought back and they were sent to the bay city by the Lathrop route.

It was at the spot where the track disappeared that the railroad company had so much trouble last winter, when a loaded passenger train came near going out of sight. A great army of men was then set at work to find up the sink, and the task was most difficult one, as enormous timbers which were thrown into the hold quickly sank from view and the train was caught in a dense sunken. But the engineers finally mastered the situation, and after a week's time, trains were sent on the route again. It is now feared that it will take several weeks' time to repair the present collapse, and in the meantime all trains will be sent by the Stockton route.

There are several crevasses on each side of the track through the Suisun marshes, and it is reported that a great ocean of water has flowed over the lowlands between Suisun and Benicia. A short distance below Suisun a Southern Pacific switch engine sank into the ground for a distance of three feet, not far from where the track disappeared.

A report was received at the train dispatcher's office this morning about 9 o'clock, saying that windmills, chimneys and water tanks at Suisun had been prostrated.

Windmills and chimneys were knocked down at Tracy, San Joaquin county. Freight cars in the railroad yard at that place were blown over and had to have blocks placed under them.

A report came from Woodland that chimneys were knocked down at that place.

There came from that point saying that there was scarcely a whole pane of window glass left in that place.

About 9 o'clock word came to the railroad office that the county courthouse at Santa Rosa had fallen and that a number of people had been killed, but that story was not confirmed.

A railroad dispatch said the shock was felt as far east as Hazen, Nev., which is about 50 miles beyond Wadsworth.

On the Sacto river, was wrecked by the earthquake shock.

No one was injured there.

BIYAN IN EGYPT.

New York, April 18.—A cable dispatch to the Herald from Alexandria, says: "A. J. Bryan, who is touring the world, left Cairo for Luxor. He returned on Thursday and will leave Cairo on Saturday for the Holy Land."

WEATHER BUREAU ON THE EARTHQUAKE

Washington Office Gives Out Statement on the Case.

THE TREMOR WAS DISTINCT.

Strongest Shock Came Five Minutes After First Warning Was Received on the Register.

Washington, April 18.—The weather bureau this afternoon issued the following report regarding the San Francisco earthquake:

"The great San Francisco earthquake of April 18, 1906, was registered upon the boch omori seismograph at the weather bureau office at Washington, beginning at eight hours, 19 minutes and 20 seconds, seventy-fifth meridian time. The record shows a disturbance of considerable magnitude at Washington, although not severe enough to be felt by individuals."

"The stronger wave motion began at 8:25 a. m., that is about five minutes after the first imperceptible tremors. The recording pen was carried entirely off the record sheet by the violence of the motion from 8:25 to 8:35 a. m. After the latter time the motion gradually diminished over a longer period of time but did not entirely cease until about 12:35 p. m."

"The vibratory motion of the ground at Washington was really a comparatively slow and deliberate motion, each back and forth movement taking 15 to 20 seconds of time. The largest movement of the ground registered before the pen went off the sheet, amounting to about four-tenths of an inch or a to and fro movement nearly one-half inch in the surface of the earth in this city. (Signed) WILLIS MOORE, "Chief of Bureau."

NEW YORK MAN'S VIEW.

New York, April 18.—Speaking of the possible causes of the San Francisco earthquake, Prof. Charles F. Berkeley, of the department of geology, Columbia university, said today:

"There is no possible connection between the San Francisco disturbance and the recent eruption of Vesuvius. Earthquakes are not necessarily of volcanic origin. The earth's crust in cooling, contracts, and often contracts unevenly, so that it causes the strata to slide. Such a sliding of the earth's crust might have caused the San Francisco earthquake."

MORE SHOCKS DURING THE DAY.

Heavy Wind and Third and Sansome Streets Now a Mass of Flame.

New York, April 18.—The following message from San Francisco was received by the W. U. at 3:30 New York time:

"We are having an accumulation of slight shocks. A heavy southwest wind has sprung up within the last half hour. A section of the city south of Market street bounded by Third street, Third and Sansome and Ninth street, is a mass of flames. The Call building at the corner of Third and Market streets has just burned and the Anglo-California bank has also been destroyed. Every building in the city has been more or less damaged by the earthquake."

The Southern Pacific company has brought a ton of dynamite into the vicinity of the burning section on Market street to be used, if possible, in blowing up property to prevent the spread of the fire.

The above message was received from the main office of the Western Union in San Francisco, which the company was able to get into communication with after it had established a temporary office in the Ferry building. After sending the dispatch the operator announced that a building adjoining the Western Union building had just taken fire and that possibly the operators would be driven out and may go to the Ferry building.