

AN EARTHQUAKE SHAKES MEXICO

City of Chilpancingo is Completely Destroyed. Number of Persons Killed. Many Injured.

BIG LOSS OF LIFE ELSEWHERE

Feared Tlaxcala Whipped Out—Many Alarming Rumors—Shock Felt in Half the Republic.

Chilpancingo, Mexico, April 15.—This city has been completely destroyed by an earthquake. The known dead number 11 and the badly injured 27. The greatest panic prevails and people are fleeing to the open country. The earth continues to rock at half-hour intervals and many minor shocks are completing the work of destruction begun by the first earthquake.

Word has reached here that the town of Chilpancingo, 42 kilometers to the northeast, has also been destroyed. No details have been received as to the number of the dead and injured.

The population of Chilpancingo is 7,493, and until the panic into which the citizens have been thrown, it will be impossible to state the number of casualties.

The population of Chilpancingo is 15,000.

No word has been received from Tlaxcala, and it is feared it also has been destroyed. According to the movements of the earthquake Tlaxcala would be in its direct line.

The following message was sent to the federal telegraph office in Mexico City from Chilpancingo:

"Our boys are working in a public garden. A terrible panic prevails, as the earth continues to tremble at regular intervals. Send us tents that we may establish our office out in the country."

All communication from the west coast has been cut off since the movement of the first big shock and it is not known to what extent that region suffered. The nearest large town, Acapulco, 131 kilometers to the southwest of this place, has not been heard from.

Both the volcanoes of Colima and Jorullo are in this region. The earthquake, it is feared, may cause these mountains to become more active and to destroy much property and many lives.

SHOCK OF WIDE EXTENT.

Mexico City, April 15.—The federal telegraph office here has informed the Associated Press that last night's earthquake has interfered with the working of the wires in all parts of the republic south of a line drawn from Acapulco on the west coast to Tampico on the Gulf coast.

From the messages received at the telegraph office up to noon it appears that the entire south half of the republic, including the lower country and the Mesabo belt, felt the shock last night.

Messages from as far north as San Luis Potosi and south to San Juan Bautista, in the state of Tabasco, report feeling the shock in varying degrees. At no place, however, has loss of life or great destruction of property been reported except in the state of Guerrero. The boundary line of the northern zone of the earthquake extended across the country in a north-westerly direction for over 400 miles and south over 600 miles.

The National Bank of Mexico has received a telegram saying that 500 lives were lost in the destruction of Chilpancingo and Chilpancingo. In governmental circles the report is not credited. It is admitted that both cities were leveled to the ground, but it is not thought that the death list will even approximate 500, owing to the fact that the houses are built of stone in order to resist earthquake shocks.

The federal authorities here have been appealed to by the governors of the districts of Bayamo and Chilpancingo, as the inhabitants are now living in the open.

The governor of Guerrero has dispatched military engineers and troops to the stricken district and the work of rescue and sanitation is being carried on in a systematic manner.

Both cities are so isolated that it is impossible to obtain accurate and rapid intelligence of the disaster.

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Berkeley, Cal., April 15.—Perhaps

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the most remarkable shock of earthquake ever recorded at the students' observatory at the University of California was registered at the Omey seismograph at an early hour this morning. The shock lasted for more than half an hour and on that account it is believed that the local station is much nearer the center of the shock than the eastern stations, where the duration of the quake was much longer.

"It is a well founded fact that the shock is always shortest at the nearest point to the center of an earthquake," said Prof. Armin O. Leuschner, director of the students' observatory and head of the department of astronomy at the University of California, this afternoon. "The shock felt in the east was very slight. The Omey seismograph in the students' observatory. We did not take the record off until 2 o'clock this afternoon, although it was much earlier than our regular time for making observations, which are taken every 24 hours. The record of the heavy motion is followed by that of additional heavy shocks."

FAMINE IN CHINA.

Funds Received From United States Used to Buy Dried Potatoes.

Shanghai, China, April 15.—The sum of \$5,000 received from the United States by the famine relief committee today was used to purchase half a million pounds of dried potatoes, which were shipped to the Great Canal this morning.

A dispatch was received today from a Chinese official offering to put, for the first time in history, steamboats above the heads of the Great Canal, thus cutting down the time for the transportation to the famine district from this city for eight days.

Further particulars of the distress existing show that people are eating the green seeds from ponds, white clay and the hulls of rice.

The relief committee has been able to secure enough milk for one depot to feed 100 babies until the harvest. The committee, however, has been compelled to leave about 400 other babies in that district to die.

ONLY THREE SAVED.

Gibraltar, April 15.—The British steamer *Andalusia* from Swansea, for Barcelona, founded April 13 off the Spanish coast. Her captain, first officer and a sailor were picked up and brought here. The rest of the crew are believed to have been drowned.

DOING BUSINESS AGAIN.

"When my friends thought I was about to take leave of this world on account of indigestion, nervousness and general debility," writes A. A. Chisholm, Treadwell, N. Y., "and when I looked as if there was no hope left, I was persuaded to try Electric Bitters, and I rejoice to say that they are curing me. I am now doing business again as of old, and am still gaining daily." Best of all tonic medicines. Guaranteed by Z. C. M. I. Drug Store, 53c.

COIN MINTED AT DENVER NOT UP TO STANDARD.

Denver, April 15.—Department heads of the new United States mint in this city and three government agents connected with the mint headquarters began today checking up the coinage of the mint and making the annual settlements, several weeks in advance of the usual time for these settlements. This action, following the government report that gold coins from the Denver mint have been found to be under value in fineness of gold, though up to grade in weight, means that the government has begun action

to discover who is responsible for the discrepancy in fineness.

The government report states that the coins are found to be under the standard of 5 cents on every \$20 gold piece. The discrepancy was discovered by the bank of England assayer, who passed on a shipment of \$1,500,000 made to England in January. The entire lot was at once condemned and reshipped to the United States. The discrepancy in the total gold coinage at the Denver mint, amounting to \$2,050,000, is \$7,494.50.

The government agents who are investigating are Benjamin F. Butler, comptroller of the United States mint; Francis P. Desoy, assayer of the mint bureau of Washington, and Jacob B. Beckfield, assayer of the Philadelphia mint.

STUDENTS HAVE A ROW.

Seattle, Wash., April 15.—When the junior class of the University of Washington entered the assembly hall to attend the regular Monday exercises this morning, wearing their traditional junior plugs, they invited an assault that proved the fiercest class fight yet known at the institution. Chairs were smashed under the struggling mass, heavy canes were broken over the heads of the junior assailants, clothes were torn and a number of the freshmen were injured about the head by the swinging canes.

BITTEN BY A SPIDER.

Through blood poisoning caused by a spider bite, John Washington of Roswell, N. M., would have lost his leg, which became a mass of running sores, had he not been persuaded to try Bucklen's Arnica Salve. He writes: "The first application relieved, and four boxes healed all the sores." 25c. Guaranteed at Z. C. M. I. Drug Store.

What will your rating be?

BILL TO EXCLUDE JAPANESE FROM BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Washington, April 15.—The department of commerce and labor is watching with interest the outcome of a measure recently introduced in the parliament of British Columbia designed to exclude Hindus and Japanese from that country. Although the Hindus are British subjects, the British Columbians do not regard them as desirable citizens. But according to information received here, the measure really is directed at the Japanese. It provides that no person shall be admitted to the province who cannot subscribe to a simple educational test in the English language, and that the steamship company bringing them over shall be held accountable for their deportation. The address received here is that the proposition surely will be incorporated into law and in that event the concern felt by the immigration officials over the smuggling of Japanese into the United States will be materially lessened.

THE PACIFIC FLEET.

For First Time in History of American Navy There Is One.

Washington, April 15.—For the first time in the history of the American navy there has come into existence "the Pacific fleet," comprising three squadrons, one with headquarters at San Francisco and two in Asiatic waters. Admiral Duxton today advised the navy department from Manila that he has hoisted his flag upon the armored cruiser *West Virginia* as commander-in-chief of the entire Pacific fleet. In organization, the new fleet will correspond to the Atlantic fleet under command of Admiral Evans.

CHICAGO POLICE WERE COLLECTED

Contributed Thousands of Dollars To Democratic Campaign Fund In Mayoralty Election.

ALL PARTIES DO SAME THING.

All Who Collected and All Who Contributed Are Liable to Indictment.

Chicago, April 15.—Chicago's police department contributed thousands of dollars to the Democratic campaign fund in the recent mayoralty campaign, and has contributed in a like manner to whichever party was in power as long as the older officers of the force can remember, according to revelations made today before the civil service commission by police officials.

Among the officers who offered this testimony to the commission were inspectors Revere and Kelly, Capt. McGeweny and Lieut. Jenkins. Capt. McGeweny, who several days ago refused to take the oath, confessed freely today that he had aided in the collection of large amounts of money to be used in the recent campaign.

According to the civil service commission every man who engaged in the collection of the fund, even each patrolman who contributed is liable to indictment by the grand jury under the provisions of the civil service act. One of the sections in the act provides that any person disregarding any of the provisions of the act shall be fined not less than \$1,000, and may be imprisoned in the county jail for a term not exceeding six months. The commission has announced its intention to sift the matter to the bottom, but it is said not to prosecute the under officials, who, it is asserted, merely carried out the commands of Chief Collins.

Capt. McGeweny told the commission that when he was ordered to subscribe to the fund he was provided with as many blank envelopes as there were men at his station, into which the money was to be put.

"I was instructed to deliver all the envelopes," the inspector said, "and I did so. The fund contained all money. A few had \$10 bills, and a great many \$5 bills."

After Capt. McGeweny's testimony inspectors Revere, Kelly and Wheeler were sent for. Revere and Kelly responded at once, but Wheeler could not appear before the commission tomorrow.

On hearing from the commission that Kelly and McGeweny had told complete stories of the case, the inspectors, Revere said that in all he collected \$3,000 from the officers and men in the police force. Kelly admitted having obtained \$2,500 from the force.

Both inspectors said no lists had been kept of those who did not subscribe and that no special favors were given those who contributed. The two inspectors testified that it had been the custom, no matter what party was in power, to levy assessments on the police stations.

Inspector Kelly was asked if he considered Chief Collins' request for contributions as a command.

"Yes, I took it as an order," replied Kelly, "but I could have disobeyed if I wanted to."

Both the inspectors testified that the money had been given to E. H. Roach, formerly commissioner of public works.

STANDARD OIL CO. WILL CONTINUE FIGHT.

Chicago, April 15.—Despite overwhelming proof of the violation of the Elkins law, as shown by the verdict of guilty returned against it in the United States district court, the Standard Oil company has by no means given up. No legal technicality is to be overlooked by its attorneys, and the case will be kept in the courts as long as possible.

Within a few days Judge K. M. Landis will be asked to fix the time when he can hear arguments on a motion for a new trial, notice of which was served on the court immediately after the jury had returned its verdict. If this motion is over-ruled the defense will present a motion in arrest of judgment.

On this occasion Dist. Atty. Sims and his special assistant, James H. Wilkerson, will be heard upon to reply. The argument of the defense will be that in accepting the six cent rate, the Standard Oil company committed only a violation of the Elkins act, and that the contention of the government that each car of oil shipped constituted an additional offense is not good.

To this the government will reply that as only one offense can be punished by no more than \$20,000, and that the amount derived by the Standard Oil company in the counts charged in the indictment was \$225,000 the fine is by no means commensurate with the crime.

"\$20,000 is the most the government can fine a violator of this law," said an assistant district attorney, "it will have little effect in stamping out evil. It was enacted to remedy. In this case we took shipments of cars only in 1902, but that represented only a fraction of the number shipped by the Standard from its refinery at Whiting to Chicago at the same rate. I venture the total rebate, for that is what it really was, could not have been less than \$500,000. And this is only one case."

Should Judge Landis sustain this motion in arrest of judgment, the Standard company undoubtedly will pay the fine and prepare for a similar case of bottle in the seven remaining indictments. If the motion is denied, the case will be appealed either to the court of appeals, or to the United States supreme court.

CHIEF OF POLICE A SUICIDE.

Newark, N. J., April 15.—Chief of Police John Adams shot and killed himself in Branch Brook park today.

NEW YORK'S TRANSFER TAX CONSTITUTIONAL.

Washington, April 15.—New York's transfer tax law was today declared constitutional by the supreme court of the United States in the case of Winthrop Chandler and other heirs of the late Mrs. Laura Astor Delandova Camp-trell Kelsey, in which the decision was against Mrs. Chandler. The case arose in connection with the will of Mrs. Delandova, by which she devised to members of the Astor family about \$1,000,000 worth of property left her by her father, William B. Astor, under a will given by him before his death and before the statute was enacted. The question then presented was whether the transfer tax law which imposes a tax under certain conditions is constitutional. The state courts sustained them in that course. The court's opinion was handed down by Justice Day. He found Mrs. Delandova will to be the culminating act in devising the property, and therefore held the law to be applicable. Justice Holmes delivered a dissenting opinion in which Justice Moody concurred.



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