

## 77 Towns Damaged; 20,000 Dead; 30,000 Hurt

### Italy's Earthquake Renders Homeless A Million Persons

#### MANY VILLAGE OFFICIALS NUMBERED AMONG DEAD

ROME, Jan. 14.—The second greatest catastrophe in the history of Italy—the earthquake which shook half of the country for only 30 seconds yesterday morning, yet killed 20,000 persons, injured 30,000, rendered 1,000,000 homeless and did incalculable material damage—is becoming more realizable as each hour brings in from the people of the stricken countryside reports of the harm done.

The record of Messina in 1908 with its 76,000 casualties will not be equalled, government officials believe tonight, but the disaster is so great that little consideration is given to comparisons. The great work of relief, in which King and nobility, Pope and peasants are combining their energies, already is the problem of the hour. By this time in all probability the task of succoring those still buried in the ruins has been completed, although definite information from the isolated districts is lacking.

#### Homes Open to Refugees.

Every train that leaves the capital carries its quota of physicians, nurses, sanitarians, soldiers and civil officials bound for the wrecked towns and villages with supplies of every sort. Other trains, coming in slowly over disturbed and in some cases almost ruined roadbeds, are bringing a great throng of refugees, who are being taken in every home in Rome and cared for.

The cabinet met this afternoon and adopted measures of relief on a large scale. Fifty thousand dollars has already been appropriated for the work and more will be spent as needed. The military authorities have sent out 5,000 soldiers to prevent looting and to preserve order in the 77 towns which have been wholly or partially destroyed.

#### Avezzano Wiped Out.

Unquestionably the city of Avezzano has virtually ceased to exist. Of a population of nearly 12,000 persons only 1000 are known to have escaped entirely. The number of dead is placed at 8,200, but it is thought that this figure will be reduced, as order is restored and accurate investigation of the casualties is made.

In this district of the province of the Abruzzi the destruction parallels the worst scenes of Messina. Hundreds upon hundreds of men, women and children were crushed to death by the walls of their dwellings, scores were swallowed into the earth and many were killed in wild rushes for safety.

The dead in Avefiano include, it is reported, the sub-prefect and the members of his family, the whole staff of the prefecture, the Mayor and the members of the Municipal Council. Of the 100 soldiers in the local garrison there only a few escaped, and most of the police and customs officials also perished.

#### No Lives Lost in Rome.

In Rome itself the damage was not great. At first it seemed as if many must have been killed, but when the soldiers and police investigated it was found that not a single life had been lost and this in the face of the fact that walls of many buildings fell, heavy objects were toppled into the streets and panic stricken throngs rushed wildly about for hours.

Director Friedlander of the International Volcanological Institute at Naples says that the origin of the quake was not volcanic, and this is supported by the facts that Vesuvius has remained quiet.

Naples was not badly disturbed, but still the tremor was perceptible there, as well as at Florence, far to the North. In these two cities and in Rome much damage has been done to works of art and historic buildings. One hundred and fifty windows were cracked in the dome of St. Peter's here, and the statue of the Redeemer was damaged and the cupola slightly cracked.

#### RED CROSS ISSUES AN APPEAL FOR AID.

##### American Branch of Society Starts Movement to Relieve Suffer- in Italy's Quake Zone.

Washington, Jan. 14.—The following statement was issued tonight at Red Cross headquarters: "The press dispatches indicate that another dreadful calamity has visited Italy, occasioned by an earthquake which is reported to have destroyed many thousands of lives and to have devastated a large city. The number rendered homeless by the Messina earthquake in 1908 was upwards of 50,000 and the American public responded in relief, by raising, through the American Red Cross, the munificent sum of approximately \$1,000,000 to assist those stricken people.

"Now, there is another opportunity for the charitable people of the United States, whose population includes many hundreds of thousands of aliens, to help in providing relief for those rendered homeless and destitute by this latest catastrophe at Avezzano, Caserta and other places in the earthquake region.

"The American Red Cross will be glad to forward funds to the Italian Red Cross for those needing aid in the distressed territory."

#### 15,000 Dead in One District

Arpino has been shaken to the ground and there are dead and injured in Belmonte, Castello, Alvitto, Sandonato, Reccasecca, Marone and Arco.

#### Whole Hamlets Disappear.

With the damage so astounding in settled portions of the devastated countries, there is every reason to believe that it is worse in the distant areas where, it is reported, whole hamlets have disappeared.

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#### A CAMBRIA DETECTIVE GETS AN INDIANA MAN

Paul Azarra, of Barnesboro Bring Surprise to Sheriff Jeffries

Paul Azarra, the Italian detective of Barnesboro, Cambria county, sprung into prominence in Indiana county Saturday morning by bringing to the county jail Wasil Serenski, of Ernest, who, on Thursday, while partly under the influence of liquor, is said to have hit Forna Wykosky on the head with a stone and fractured his skull.

It was not known until Saturday morning that Azarra was working on the case and there was surprise when he marched into the office of Sheriff George Jeffries and presented his prisoner, Serenski was captured at Lucerne, where he had fled after killing Wykosky.

A charge of murder has been lodged against Serenski.

#### The Opening of a New Theatre.

The Pitt Theatre, which was sold several weeks ago by Sheriff Jeffries to Mr. A. Blitz, was opened to the public yesterday afternoon. The theatre has been remodeled and will hereafter give first class performances.

Mack, the popular pianist "di concerto", will occupy his old position. A new pipe organ will be installed at the Pitt soon.

#### THE LYRIC MINSTRELS

On Monday evening, Jan. 18th, Harry B. Marshall's Lyric Minstrels will give a performance in the Canava hall, Creekside. This musical organization numbers 30 singers, dancers, comedians and musicians, and carry their own band and orchestra. The First Part Circle, with the entire company of singers, black face comedians and musicians, with all new songs, jokes and dances, is a big feature, while the vaudeville acts following are of the best. Mr. Marshall, the director, has over twenty years' experience as a producer and musical director in all lines of musical performances in New York and other large cities. The company has many well known singers, including W. P. Walker, the interloper; John R. Jones, John Selig, Clyde Gessler, Herman Watson, George Leydie and Fred Hare, while the comedians are: Chas. Noll, the monologist; Lawrence Vogel, Jimmy Daugherty, John Wilkinson and John Elliott. George Davis, as a manipulator of Indian clubs, has few equals, while the band and orchestra musicians are all experienced men.

Indiana and Blairsville papers speak highly of recent performances, and it is hoped a large crowd will greet the company in Creekside. Preceding the evening performance an open air concert will be given by the Lyric Band at 7:30. Popular prices will prevail, adults 35c; children, 25c, to all parts of the house. Curtain will rise promptly at 8:15.

#### Use Dynamite to

##### Break Ice Gorges.

What was thought to be thunder at this unusual season was found to be heavy charges of dynamite used by the Rochester & Pittsburg Coal and Iron Company to break ice gorges in the Lucerne dam. This dam was badly damaged by a gigantic ice gorge two years ago.

Mr. Alfonso Botta, of Pittsburg agent for the L. Caprini Co., importers of the best olive oil in the land, was here on business yesterday.

#### Badly Burned by a

##### Let Go of Ammonia.

J. A. Stokes, who operates an ice plant at Blairsville was badly injured when a newly charged tank of ammonia exploded. Mr. Stokes is burned about the face and hands and body. It has not yet been determined whether his eyesight has been permanently injured.

## Germans Victorious Over Allies on Aisne After Hard Fighting

#### GERMAN WAR AEROPLANE AND MOTOR.

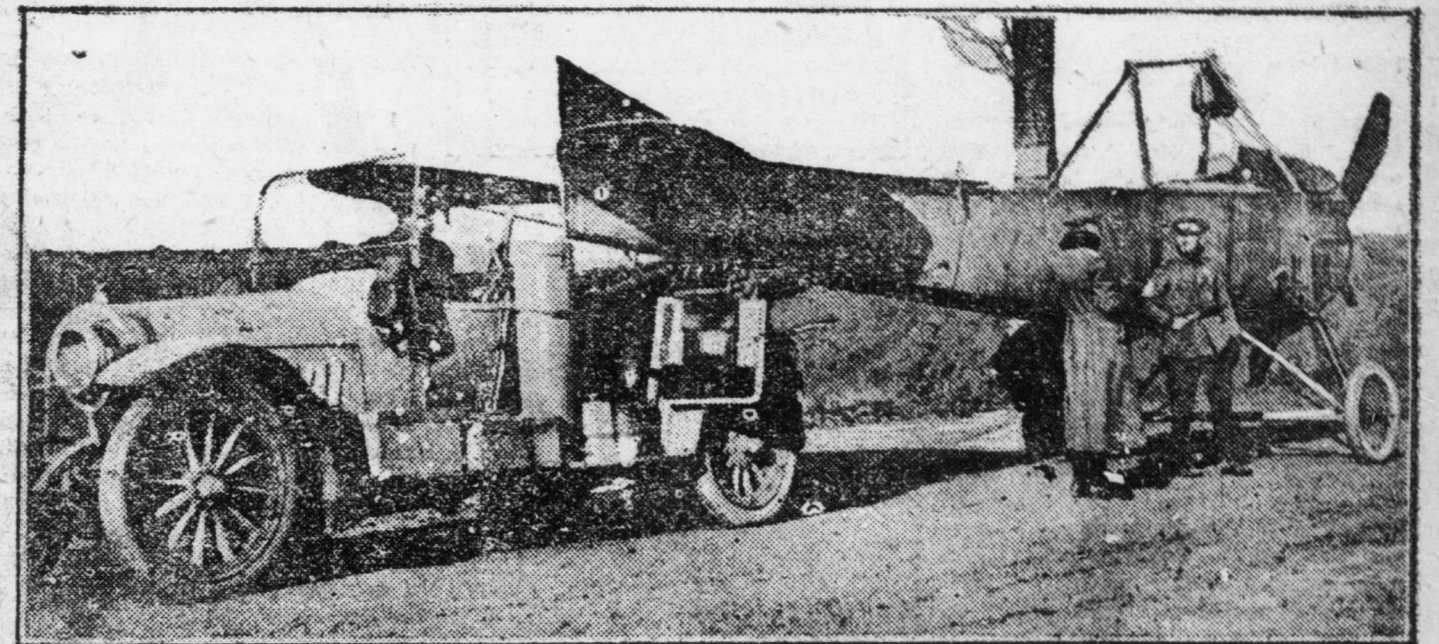


Photo by American Press Association.

#### KAISER HIMSELF WITNESS- ES DEFEAT OF DEFEND- ERS

A reverse of the allies along the River Aisne in the neighborhood of Soissons is admitted in the latest French official statement, although the possible effect of the German advance is officially minimized.

After continuous engagements, which lasted nearly two days, the Germans forced the French to yield in front of Vregny, to the east of Crouy. It is explained by the French war office that flooding of the River Aisne destroyed several of the bridges and thus rendered precarious the communications of the troops operating on the right bank. These troops were withdrawn, as it was thought impossible to send reinforcements to their support.

"The success is a practical one for our adversaries," says the French statement, "but will have no influence on the operations as a whole."

#### Emperor William Witnesses Victory.

Emperor William himself was present at these operations, which resulted in the capture of several

#### \$10,000 Improvements On Indiana Streets.

Street improvements to cost in the neighborhood of \$10,000 will be started by Indiana borough in the near future to connect with state highways starting at the borough line and leading into the surrounding districts. The streets to be improved are West Philadelphia street for a distance of 3300 feet to connect with the Kittanning pike; North Fifth street for 3,200 feet to connect with the Punxsutawney road and East Philadelphia street for a distance of 2,700 feet to connect with the Ebensburg road. All roads leaving from Indiana have been improved for some distance from the borough line by the State Highway Department. There are seven such highways which will embrace a part of the Sproull act roads.

#### Vintondale Man Is

##### Killed by Mine Trip.

Robert Clyde, for a number of years an employe of the Vinton Colliery Company at Vintondale, was killed by a trip of mine cars

thousand French prisoners and were continued throughout January 12 and 13.

Petrograd claims the Russian troops have progressed on the right bank of the Lower Vistula where the German cavalry was repulsed. On the other front, the fighting is made up largely of skirmishes and artillery duels.

The general staff of the Caucasus devoted a statement of the operations in Azerbaijan, where, it is explained, it became expedient to re-group the Russian forces, necessitating the evacuation of certain places previously occupied. No important action took place; only an engagement by the Russian advance guard.

#### British Aero Squadron Visits Antwerp.

British aviators early in the week dropped bombs on the German position in Antwerp, according to a Netherlands newspaper despatch. The damage done by the bombs has not been ascertained.

Eighty-one Russian generals have been discharged from important positions, according to the Hamburg Fremdenblatt.

Geneva reports that members

which his motor was hauling into the mine Wednesday, his body being found under the cars by fellow workmen. One car left the rails and there was every evidence that it dragged the body a considerable distance. Other men were on the trip and they did not know that anything was wrong until the cars stopped suddenly. An investigation is being made to determine the cause of the death of Clyde, who was 42 years of age and is survived by a widow and five children.

The funeral services will be held in the Baptist church at Vintondale this morning, the Rev. Sheriff, of Huntingdon, officiating, and the body will be taken to Ebensburg for interment.

#### Start Work On Big Community Mausoleum.

Work has been started on the erection of the big community mausoleum south of Indiana. This big burial place will be one of the first of its kind in this section and will contain vaults which have been subscribed for by many persons.

of the Austrian nobility and aristocracy and Viennese financiers are depositing large sums of money in Switzerland and also giving orders for the purchase of quantities of American securities.

The American secretary of state has acknowledged, in a friendly spirit, the receipt of the preliminary reply of the British government to the American note protesting against the treatment accorded neutral commerce by British warships. No comment is made by the secretary in view of the fact that it is Great Britain's intention to reply later in detail.

#### New Zeppelin Launched

Geneva, Jan. 14—(via Paris)—A new Zeppelin airship left Friedrichshafen yesterday on a trial flight of an hour. After skirting Lake Constance the airship disappeared over the grand duchy of Baden, and later returned safely to its shed. Prior to making the trip a German aeroplane made a scouting tour in order to prevent a surprise by French aircraft.

It is reported that the new Zeppelin will leave soon for service in the North Sea.

#### Visits Brother In Jail; Is Locked Up

Mike Serenski, of Ernest. Sunday visited his brother, Wasil Serenski, who is charged with the murder of Forna Wykosky, and was locked up as a material witness.

#### Girl Sent to Jail.

Mrs. Rosie Virella, of Homer City, aged 17 years, the youngest girl prisoner ever held in the county jail, pleaded guilty to selling liquor illegally and was sentenced to serve three months in jail.

#### \$50,000 Coal Case Has Been Continued

The ten men who were sitting as a jury in the case of the Bear Run Coal & Coke Company of Sidney, against Michae Burns and James B. Phelan, of Punxsutawney, have been discharged and the case continued until January 18, when a new jury will hear the case. Of the original jury for which only 11 men could be secured, one became ill leaving ten men to sit on the case.