

# QUAKE DEATH LIST GROWING

Five Demented Persons Are the Only Ones Saved from a City That Numbered 50,000, and Warship Finds no Trace of City.

## GREATEST CATASTROPHY OF MODERN TIMES

Change in Geography By Earth's Upheaval Shows That Many Cities Were Swallowed Up By Sea and Ninety-Foot Wave Hits Shaken Towns in Italy.

Rome, Dec. 30.—While it is still impossible to calculate the full extent of the earthquake disaster in southern Italy, it is certain that the catastrophe is one of the greatest in history—perhaps the greatest of modern times. From the latest advices and compilations the following terrible figures and facts give some idea of the monstrous tragedy:

Total number of Sicilian dead, including Messina ..... 70,000  
Total number of Calabrians dead ..... 30,000

Grand Total ..... 100,000  
Exact Figures Unobtainable.

In detail, the death list in Messina ranges from 12,000 to 50,000; that of Reggio, with its adjacent villages, number 45,000 people, includes almost the entire population. At Palmi 1,000 are reported dead; at Cassano 1,000; at Cosenza 500, and half of the population of Bagnara, about 1,000.

The Monteleone region has been devastated, and Riposto, Seminara, San Giovanni, Scylla, Ganzaro and Cannitello and all other communes and villages bordering on the Straits of Messina are in ruins.

No exact report of the number of dead is obtainable up to this hour, and, in fact, it may never be obtained, as many bodies have been totally destroyed in the ruins. Messina and Reggio are utterly destroyed. Messina had a population of 150,000.

Tidal Wave Swallows Thousands. Their annihilation was due less to the earthquake than to the tidal wave which followed it, swallowing up thousands of human beings before they had a chance to escape. Two other Calabrian towns, Bagnara and Palmi, were also destroyed and it is feared that many foreign tourists have perished. It appears certain that the ninety English and forty German guests at the Hotel Trinacria in Messina lost their lives.

Reggio Disappears Entirely. The ominous absence of details concerning Reggio di Calabria proves to be due to the fact that not only the city itself, but its whole population with the exception of a few who have disappeared. The war ships which were ordered to relieve the survivors were unable to approach the coast owing to the changed configuration of the Straits of Messina. Ultimately a torpedo boat ran close to the shore, but was unable to discover a trace of the city.

Only five of the city's inhabitants have yet been accounted for. These unhappy wrecks reached Cattanzaro at Palmi half demented by fright. One of them was mainly impressed by having seen the sea cover the cathedral. The government is withholding the news concerning Reggio for the present, hesitating to publish the appalling tale until it is fully confirmed. In view of this latest development of the catastrophe the death toll may well reach 125,000.

Some of the survivors from Messina say that the gas meters at the gas works exploded and started fires in every direction. It was not long after the tidal wave had receded when the havoc by fire made the catastrophe complete.

Thousands of injured were lying pinned under the debris and many of these were burned before help could reach them. The fire is still burning in Messina and many thousands more who are still imprisoned under fallen walls and wreckage must perish unless they are promptly extricated.

Survivors in Helpless Daze. The survivors in Messina are demoralized. Despairing groups of men and women parade the ruined streets, trying to get some trace of relatives or friends, but seemingly powerless to render any real service toward caring for the wounded or extinguishing the flames.

All the chief municipal officials of Messina and Reggio were killed and thus there was no one with executive ability to take charge of the situation immediately following the shock.

Clutching at a Straw. Gaston burst like a whirlwind in upon his friend Alphonse. "Will you be my witness?" he cried. "Going to fight?" "No; going to get married." Alphonse after a pause inquired: "Can't you apologize?" From the French.

Canada Larger Than United States. The total area of the United States is 3,002,340 square miles; of Canada, 3,303,320 square miles.

## HARBOR POLICE SCENT AN ARSON MYSTERY

Believe That Fire in Dombrowski Building Work of Incendiary.

TWO MEN ARE UNDER ARREST

Fire Breaks Out In Ruins of Building Last Night and Endangers Property.

(Special to THE TIMES.)  
Indiana Harbor, Ind., Dec. 30.—The local police department is now confronted with an arson mystery that promises to be interesting to at least two Indiana Harbor men. They are of the belief that the fire in the Dombrowski building, on Cedar street, was of incendiary origin, and on following this angle of the case, were rewarded by the arrest of two foreigners. The building was occupied by three families, and used as a boarding house by about thirty foreigners. Among these were John Bukowski, an old man 50 years of age, and Mike Bubert, who gives his age as 27 years. Early yesterday morning Officer Mike Gorman was called into a saloon on Cedar street and informed that the two men were talking about the fire, each accusing the other of setting it. After listening to the men's declarations for a few minutes, Gorman arrested both men and escorted them to the jail at East Chicago.

Grilled By DeBrie. The two men were haled before Judge DeBrie and under a fierce grilling, Robert declared that he did not believe Bukowski set fire to the house. Although maintaining his own innocence, Bukowski refused to say that his friends were not guilty. The outcome of the affair is that Bubert is still in jail, awaiting the result of an investigation now pending, in which Chief Higgins expects to secure rather sensational evidence against his prisoner.

Bukowski lost all his clothes and money in the fire of Monday evening. When arraigned before Judge DeBrie, he had on but a thin undershirt and a pair of trousers. In his frantic efforts to escape the flames he had allowed his clothing to be consumed. He was supplied with a lot of second-hand clothing from the city storehouse and allowed to return to his work at the inland mills.

Fire Breaks Out Again. Fire broke out among the ruins of the building about 8:15 o'clock last evening and burned brightly for about an hour. The fire department was called to protect the adjoining property, but as there was a heavy rain falling, their services were not needed. Today nothing remains of the former two-story boarding house, but a few smoldering ashes and embers. Investigation reveals the fact that there is but a partial insurance on the building, controlled by the Fowler agency.

## FURNACE NO. TWO IS BLOWN IN

Rapid Progress Is Made in Work at the Steel Mills.

The second furnace, No. 11, of the Indiana Steel mills at Gary is shortly after 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon. It was the first, very successful, there being no accident to mar the lighting of the new furnace.

The blowing in of No. 11 furnace will mark the lighting of other furnaces and the employment of men at intervals as the steel company officials see best fit. It was said by the officials of the plant today that the power plant, supplying gas to the entire plant, will be started within a few days. As soon as the second furnace is in operation there will be a supply of gas sufficient, it is thought, to operate several of the gas engines. As other furnaces are lighted the supply of gas will be increased, thus furnishing increased power for the plant. In time this will be sufficient for the company to do away with steam power and these engines will be turned off and only used in a case of emergency.

The first furnace of the mill has been in operation over a week and there have been no accidents to prevent the operation of the second furnace today. This will be done without any ceremony, only the officials of the mills being present to witness the lighting. The daily capacity of the first furnace is about 300 tons of pig iron per day. This will be increased, however, until the normal capacity is about 600 tons per day. The second furnace will have the same capacity, but it is thought that it will be a record before the two furnaces will be turning out their full capacity of 1,200 tons per day. At the present time No. 12 is turning out three ladles of pig iron every six hours.

It is said that furnace No. 11 was really lighted by accident yesterday, but no credit can be given the above report. It is said that employees were busy charging the furnace preparatory to lighting it when a workman was told to go up on top of the skip-hoist to look after some part of the furnace. He carried a ball torch and while there the gas accumulating in one of the air shafts caught fire and lighted the furnace at the top. It was up to the officials to get busy and light the furnace at the bottom, which was done shortly after.

## POLICEMAN TO CONVICT, HIS RECORD

Edward Saeler, Self-Confessed Holdup Man, Reveals His Past Life to East Chicago Officials; Father a Police Sergeant.

## MADE GOOD RECORD ON SHARON PA. FORCE

Says His Arrest Is Best Thing That Could Have Happened to Him—Hopes That Court Will Show Him Leniency When His Case Comes Up Next Monday Morning.

(Special to THE TIMES.)  
East Chicago, Ind., Dec. 30.—"From Policeman to Convict" might be an applicable title for a book reciting the adventures and downfall of Edward Saeler, self-confessed holdup man. Saeler, as reported in yesterday's Times, has promised Chief of Police Higgins that he will plead guilty to the holdup charge, throwing himself upon the mercy of the court for leniency. "I was crazy when I did it and the judge will probably consider the fact that I was drunk," is the prisoner's suggestion. He was taken to Hammond yesterday but as the superior court is not in session it will be impossible to secure the conviction before next Monday morning. On that day, however, Deputy Prosecuting Attorney J. D. Bartholomew will present the case to the court and demand the infliction of a prison term of two to four years.

Father a Police Sergeant. For the first time since his incarceration, Saeler last night consented to give a few details regarding his past life and their simplicity are astounding. "You would never believe it," the prisoner declared, "but I was a member of the Sharon, Pa., police force for eighteen months and during that time made an excellent record." Further narration revealed the fact that the young man's father is now sergeant of the Sharon department and one of the most respected citizens of the Pennsylvania town. After leaving Sharon, Saeler declares that he worked for a while in the various mills in Ohio and Indiana, finally securing a position in the tin mill of the Inland Steel company. It was while working here that he became addicted to the use of liquors, and declares that it was "the whisky" that tried to hold up L. Mark, and not Ed Saeler.

"Really, now," and here the prisoner spoke in a confiding manner. "I think my arrest was the best thing that could have happened to me. It was caught at my first holdup attempt and might have been killed in another raid had I been successful in my early criminal career." Chief of Police Higgins is not so sure that Saeler has committed but the one offense and is making a rigid examination of the man's statements.

## SQUEAL KILLS GAME

Boxing Game in West Hammond Receives a Body Blow.

Since the West Hammond boxing bouts which were put on last Sunday proved to be something of a failure and were not attended by the crowds which were expected, it is doubtful if the boxing game in West Hammond will be revived.

It received a bad set-back when a disgruntled hall owner over across the line squealed to the county sheriff just because he was afraid he was not getting his share of the rake-off in the way of hall rent.

After the Chicago fans had been brought all of the way to Hammond only to be disappointed they were not very keen for another fiasco of the kind.

The local support which is given the boxing contests does not amount to much and as a result the chances are that there will not be many more boxing contests in West Hammond.

The various managements hardly feel warranted in going ahead and securing good talent for the reason that any person who cares to do so can go to the sheriff and stop the fight in five minutes.

Source of Poison Dangers.

The action of foods and liquors on their receptacles may produce deadly poisons. Acid fruits cooked in copper or zinc pots are a particular source of danger. A man who was taken ill in the hunting field with symptoms of mineral poisoning learned that the fine old brandy he carried in his back pocket had dissolved some of the copper in the sterling silver flask.

## FIRST CONTRACT FOR GARY CITY HALL LET

Town Board Wants Excavation Work to Begin at Once.

COSTS 20C. PER SQUARE YD.

City Fathers at Regular Meeting Also Pass a Pure Ice Ordinance—Dealers Are Warned.

The contract was let yesterday afternoon by the Gary town board for the excavations for the new city hall and fire station, to be erected next spring by the city of Gary. The contract was awarded to the Gary Construction company for the price of 20 cents per square yard. The two next lowest bids were those of the W. C. Covington Construction company, 22 cents per square yard, and Frank Brink, 22½ cents per square yard.

The letting of the contract, which is entirely separate from the contract for the construction of the building, means that the work will start at once so that everything will be in readiness to start the actual work of construction before the frost is out of the ground next spring. There were nearly a dozen bids for the work and the prices ranged up as high as thirty cents per square yard.

Get Pure Ice. Another matter of importance disposed of by the board was the passage of a pure ice law, which is to regulate the quality of ice sold in this city. Hereafter no vegetable matter will be allowed in the ice, such as weeds and pond lilies. It is also hoped to keep out such matter as fish and frogs, which specimens have also been found secreted in the improvised cold storage plants.

The ice which has been used about Gary has been particularly bad, being full of secretions which have not only made it dirty, but Health Officer Temple says that it is injurious to health. This ordinance has been under consideration for some time, but owing to the fact that the ice had been harvested for the season the board thought it best to wait until another crop was about to be harvested before the law was passed. This will give the dealers ample warning.

IF YOU DON'T SEE IT IN THE OTHER PAPER LOOK FOR IT IN THE TIMES.

## FREEZES HIS LEGS; AMPUTATED

Charles Underwood, a Gary "Rounder," Will Round no More; Is a Helpless Cripple Now; Come from Chicago.

Charles Underwood, 58 years old, was the sad victim of an amputation yesterday morning in the Mercy hospital when one foot and half of the other was removed because of having been frozen during the early part of the month. The case was one of the most pitiful that has come to the attention of the hospital authorities.

Underwood is apparently a bright old man, but has been a "rounder" all his life working at odd jobs here and there, until he finally struck Gary. During the time that he has been in the Steel City, Underwood stayed at the Delaware hotel and was employed in the steel mills shoveling concrete. Finally, however, he reached the stage where he could not pay his bills at the hotel and the police were asked to put him out.

Both Feet Are Removed.

It is not known whether or not his feet were frozen while he was wandering around the city after that or whether the facts are as he relates, which the physician in attendance says are improbable, that his feet became wet while he was shoveling concrete, and that he kept his wet shoes on until his feet froze. At any rate, however, they were frozen so that circulation stopped in both of his feet, and both were literally dead. The man's feet remained in this condition for two weeks before he asked for medical assistance, and was taken to the hospital. Here it was found necessary to remove the dead section to prevent infection of the remainder of his body.

Before the operation took place the old man informed the doctors that if it was not successful, that no one should be notified and that he be buried by the state. This morning, however, he was reported to be doing nicely and it is not thought that infection will set in. The old man did not say what he intended to do with himself in case he recovered, and he will probably become a burden on the public.

## MACHINISTS FLOCK TO EAST CHICAGO

Calumet Region Workingmen Enjoy Great Time There Last Night.

(Special to THE TIMES.)

East Chicago, Ind., Dec. 30.—International Association of Machinists, more particularly local No. 209, made merry in Wetland's hall in this city last evening, when one of their frequent "love feasts" was held. About two hundred members and friends of the union were present and thoroughly enjoyed the good things to eat and drink, as well as the splendid boxing and sparring program.

Business Agents Stratton, Beaton and Greiner of Chicago were present and made brief addresses on topics of interest to union men, and were assisted in the musical portion of the program by John Morgan of South Chicago and George Dixon of Hammond. Four sparring matches were held, the participants being various study members of the entertaining organization. The members of local boiler-makers' and helpers' unions were invited to the function of last evening and responded in goodly numbers.

Local No. 209 comprises the machin-

ists of the entire Calumet region, from Blue Island to Hammond, and it is their intention to hold these social sessions about every three months. The success of last evening's venture assured the active committees that their efforts are well appreciated and an effort will be made to hold another "feast" at Hammond in the near future. The officers of the local are: M. Selder of Hammond, president; W. J. Jenkins of East Chicago, ex-president; W. A. Corner of Hammond, vice president; Henry Loveridge of Hammond, secretary; U. A. Caddott of Hammond, recording secretary; S. Cunningham of Blue Island, treasurer; C. A. McLain of East Chicago, conductor, and D. J. Reed of East Chicago, inner sentinel.

Persuasion.

After he has hammered his thumb nail a few times it is only for a man to feel that he really has not the time to nail down the hall carpet.

## SCIENCE

Is applied in our dairy. We have more than complied with the state pure food law. Still our prices are no higher than you pay elsewhere.

THE HAMMOND DAIRY CO.  
Cor. Oakley Ave. and Clinton St.

## A GOOD NEW YEAR RESOLUTION

"Help your Wife Brighten the Home."

Add a little Silverware of the  
BASTAR & McGARRY QUALITY

THE HAMMOND  
DISTILLING CO.  
DAILY CAPACITY 25,000 GALLONS.

# Extra Specials For Thursday, Dec. 31

A Beautiful Calendar Plate in Gold and Colors Given Free with a 50c Purchase in any Department of the Big Store on this Day.  
STORE OPEN THURSDAY EVENING

## Clothing Dept. Specials

Heavy Fleece Underwear.  
In light tan colors, in a good range of sizes, regular price 50c, special at per garment ..... 36c

Initial Handkerchiefs at 7c.  
Men's Initial Handkerchiefs of extra quality Japanese, regular price 10c, special ..... 7c

2 to a Customer.

Boy's Fancy Golf Caps.  
With inside fur pull down, in fancy brown, blue, green, gray and black, regular 35c value, special at ..... 26c

Boy's Heavy Wool Sweaters.  
In brown, blue, maroon and grays, made with heavy roll neck, regular 1.00 value, special at ..... 69c

Nobby Four-in-hand Ties.  
In stripes, figured and cross bar patterns in newest shapes and colors, regular 50c value, special at ..... 38c

Men's Heavy Corduroy Pants, 1.29  
Extra good quality corduroy pants, all well made with riveted buttons, regular 1.50 value, special at ..... 1.29

Boy's Snappy Two-Piece Suits.  
In fancy gray plaid and striped patterns of all worsted fabrics, handsomely tailored, regular price 4.00 and 5.00, special at ..... 2.89

Boy's Heavy Storm Overcoats.  
In black and fancies, sizes 15 to 20 yrs. regular 5.00 value, special at ..... 3.19

## Shoe Dept. Specials

1.29 FOR LADIES' 2.00 SHOES, Vic Kid, with dull tops, light weight extension soles, sizes 4 to 8.

98c FOR LITTLE GENT'S CALF SHOES, Blucher style, sizes 9 to 13½, regular price 1.35.

2.50 FOR MEN'S 3.00 TAN WORK SHOES, double soles, sewed every pair guaranteed to wear.

1.48 FOR MISSES PATENT COLT SHOES, in Button and Blucher, sizes 11½ to 2, regular price 2.00.

29c FOR MISSES AND CHILDREN'S RUBBERS, sizes 5 to 10½ and 11 to 2, regular price 40c.

38c FOR LADIES STORM RUBBERS, all sizes, regular price 50c.

## Hardware Department

LOADED SHELLS, ROBIN HOOD, 12 gauge, No. 4 or 6 shot, loaded with smokeless powder, new stock and every shell guaranteed, box of 25 shells, special at ..... 49c

BARNEY AND BARRY SKATES, all sizes, special per pair ..... 58c

## Furniture Department

WALL POCKET, in white and gold frame, regular 1.00 value, special at ..... 59c

BAMBOO BOOK RACK, 16x38 inches, nicely varnished, made good and strong, has 4 shelves, sells for 1.00, special at ..... 69c

## Dry Goods Department Specials

NEW GIBSON STYLE STOCK, made of flannel lace with assorted colors of velvet bands, extra special for ..... 9c

One lot of fine CAMBRIC CORSET COVER embroideries, selling regularly up to 59c per yard, for only ..... 35c

10 yards good quality BLEACHED MUSLIN, regular 8½c quality, for ..... 65c

Limit only 10 yards to a Customer.  
42-inch PILLOW TUBING, good quality and full width for only, yard ..... 13c

## Ready-to-Wear Dept. Specials

BLACK KRESEY COAT, 52-in. long, lined to waist, semi-fitting back, Empire braid trimmed effect, a coat very moderately priced at 6.98, Thursday at only ..... 3.48

BROWN CONEY CLUSTER SCARF, 45-inches long, six tails, regular 1.50 value, at ..... 79c

BLACK MERCERIZED SATEN TAILORED WAIST, plaited open front, long sleeves, a splendid waist for winter wear ..... 79c

LADIES' AND MISSES SHORT KNIT SKIRTS all colors, special at ..... 98c

LONG KIMONOS, fancy and striped effects, flannelette, our regular 1.25 value, for one day only ..... 98c

INFANT'S SWEATERS, all wool, regular price 1.00, special at ..... 75c

E. C. MINAS COMPANY  
HAMMOND, INDIANA