

# THE RICHMOND PALLADIUM

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## MEN FIGHT DOGS IN THE SICILIAN RUINS FOR FOOD

Reports Tell of Desperate Conflicts Between the Hunger-Maddened Victims of Italian Horror.

## SHIPS OF QUICK LIME ORDERED BY THE KING

Stench of Decomposed Bodies Found in Wreckage Almost Prevents Work of Rescue Parties.

## BABES BORN ON WARSHIP

A RUMOR WAS STARTED TODAY THAT ON THE DATE OF THE CATASTROPHE TIDAL WAVE SUBMERGED PASSENGER TRAIN.

Washington, Jan. 2.—Italian embassy today forwarded a quarter of a million dollars to the Italian Red Cross society, this being contributions from the embassy staff and others preferring to remit through the embassy.

Rioting Has Started.

Rome, Jan. 2.—Survivors of the earthquake at Reggio and Messina are without food or shelter and today began rioting. Troops were sent to quell them. Men were fighting each other for scraps of food found in ruins. More shocks and another tidal wave in Strait of Messina have added to the devastation. There is fear that two shiploads of refugees have been lost in a tidal wave.

King is in Charge.

King Victor, in charge of rescue work at Messina, has visited Cannitello to which he found literally razed to the ground. He telegraphed Premier Gobetti: "Send ships and still more ships laden with quicklime. Send as many men as possible." Many more victims are still believed to be alive in the ruins but it is impossible to reach them. Horrible tales are coming from Calabria of flights, not only between men but between men and dogs for food, and famine and thirst terrors are heightened by occasional earth shocks. Three babes were born on a Russian warship which was carrying refugees to Naples.

### LABOR SIDE BY SIDE.

Latin, Slav, Teuton and Anglo-Saxon Work.

Rome, Jan. 2.—Stories of catastrophes in Calabria and Sicily multiply as communications are restored, but side by side with the cumulative tragedies come tales of rescue work done by Slav and Latin and Teuton and Anglo-Saxon laboring shoulder to shoulder.

The relief work at Messina seems now to be thoroughly systematized and is going on with almost uneventful monotony. It has been greatly hampered by extremely rough weather, rain falling violently and persistently, accompanied by a heavy wind. The downpour ceased yesterday and gave the thousands of helpers the first opportunity for working in dry clothes.

The worst fires now are under control, although many ruins still are smoldering.

Injured persons are being continually extricated from the ruins. They are sent first to ambulance stations for preliminary treatment and thence to various ships for transference to different points.

The uninjured survivors are being dispatched across the country or are sent by railway to Catania or other places.

Another Tidal Wave Reported.

It is reported here that another tidal wave has swept through the strait of Messina.

Two steamers loaded with refugees and injured persons that were expected in here yesterday have not yet been sighted, and fears are entertained for their safety.

The vessels may, however, have sought shelter at some one of the islands along the coast, but the efforts to locate them have failed and in some quarters it is feared that they have been wrecked.

The rescuers are suffering greatly from the odor arising from putrefied bodies. Many of them are unable to eat owing to the smell which permeates the clothing of the living, making them smell almost as horrible as the dead. It was a wise decision that induced the king and the ministers of the interior and of public works, who went to the devastated districts, to urge in their earliest telegrams the hastiest dispatch of unlimited quantities of quicklime as even more important than food, inasmuch as the health and lives of all the surviving natives and thousands of soldiers, sailors, and laborers were endangered.

Many hundreds of tons of quicklime have been used, but immense quantities are still needed, and every hour's delay may cost hundreds of lives.

(Continued on Page Two.)

## DR. WEIST HAS LEFT THE CITY

Popular Physician and Family Go to New York.

Dr. and Mrs. Harry Weist and family have removed to New York city where he will actively engage in the practice of medicine and also be the private physician for Daniel G. Reid. Dr. Weist's mother will remain in this city during the winter and will join her son and his family in the spring.

## INCREASE URGED BY CHIEF MILLER FOR DEPARTMENT

In His Annual Report Miller Asks the Addition of Ladder Truck and Fire Engine to Equipment.

## BUILDING INSURANCE SHOWN TO BE SMALL

Property Endangered Last Year Valued at \$402,894 With Insurance Amounting To \$223,575.

Again Ed Miller, chief of the fire department, will recommend in presenting his report of the year just closed, that the department be improved by the addition of a ladder truck and engine. Miller has made these recommendations each year since becoming chief and each time the board of public works has informed him the finances of the city are not such as would warrant the expenditure. The chief says the department needs these additions and the truth of his statement is likely to be demonstrated at any time, just as it was when the Colonial block was burned, last April.

Were 147 Alarms.

Miller's report shows the alarms answered in the past year numbered 147, which was about twenty more than the previous year. The total value of the property endangered was \$402,894. The loss was but \$67,927. The total loss was raised by the conflagrations at the Colonial building and hat factory. These were the most serious fires of the year and together total approximately all of \$60,000.

Insurance is Small.

That the insurance carried on property in this city is for only about one-half its value is made evident from the report. With property valued at \$402,894, the insurance carried on the same was but \$223,575. Authorities declare to insure property for but one-half its actual value is to act without proper discretion.

Ladder Wagon Ancient.

Although the hook and ladder wagon now used by the local department is bright and shiny in its coat of red paint and brass trimmings, it is far from a new wagon. It has been used by the department for almost a quarter of a century. It is not large enough to accommodate enough ladders of the proportion now required to combat flames when buildings of three, four and five stories are endangered. The engine is needed inasmuch as at present the only water force is that that comes from the mains with the usual flow. The water works company can put on high pressure at its station but when the limit is reached and found insufficient, there is nothing to do but let a blaze eat its way. Chief Miller believes Richmond now is of such size that additional water pressure ought to be provided for by means of an engine.

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(Continued on Page Two.)

## ACCOUNTING BILL IS APPROVED BY COUNTY AUDITOR

Coe Believes Measure Would Be Beneficial Although Requiring Revolution of Accounting System.

## CONCENTRATED EFFORT BROUGHT BILL ABOUT

Private Citizens and Commercial Organizations Urged Business Plans in Public Office Business.

County Auditor Coe declared today the bill to revise the system of accounting of public office holders will revolutionize the bookkeeping of many offices in the state. It will be an entire change in some instances, if the measure becomes the law. So long time will be required to arrange for the change that it is proposed not to put the measure into effect, 'till it be adopted, until the first of next year. The bill meets the commendation of nearly all business organizations of the state. It provides for the business of public offices being transacted on a system similar to that in vogue in private practice. "Public business like private business" was the slogan adopted by the promoters of the measure. It will be remembered the federation of commercial clubs of the state when in convention in this city adopted resolutions favoring such an enactment.

The bill was finally approved last Tuesday by all persons interested in it, members of the committee on bills from the combined committee, the attorneys and representatives of the state associations of county clerks, county auditors and county recorders and their attorneys. Attorneys who were actively engaged in getting all the provisions of the bill together under the direction of the combined committee were Charles T. Hanna, former judge of superior court of Marion county and James W. Noel.

The text of the bill in part is as follows:

A bill for an act concerning public accounting and reporting and supervision thereof, and providing penalties for violation of this act.

Section 1. Be it enacted by the General assembly of the State of Indiana, that there is hereby created and established a department of inspection and supervision of public offices. The principal officer of said department shall be known as state examiner, shall be a skillful accountant, and well versed in public accounting, and shall receive an annual salary of four thousand dollars and he shall be appointed by the governor. There shall also be appointed by the governor two deputy examiners who shall have like qualifications as the state examiner, and who shall be of different political parties, and each deputy examiner shall receive an annual salary of three thousand dollars, and such deputy examiners shall be subordinate to the state examiner. It shall be the duty of the governor within sixty days after the taking effect of this act, to appoint such state examiner and to appoint two such deputy examiners. One of such deputy examiners shall be appointed for two years and the other for four years, and their successors shall be appointed for four years. The deputy examiners shall be subject to removal by the governor upon executive order entered in writing and showing cause therefor. The clerk of said department shall be appointed by the state examiner and shall be responsible to the state examiner and shall receive an annual salary of two thousand dollars. Said salaries provided by this section shall be paid monthly out of any moneys of the state not otherwise appropriated. The department of inspection and supervision of public offices shall be provided with suitable quarters in the state house.

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## BISHOP AT ST. MARY'S TODAY

Will Speak on Congregation's New Church.

Bishop O'Donohue of the Indianapolis diocese will preach at the 8 o'clock and 10:30 masses at St. Mary's church tomorrow morning and his sermons will deal with the new church to be erected this year by the congregation. He is assured of a large attendance for the congregation is very anxious to learn as to the material qualities of their future religious home.

## INCREASE SHOWN IN 1908 REPORT OF POST OFFICE

The Richmond Postoffice the Past Year Showed an Increase of \$6,343.74 Over The Year 1907.

## FIGURES REFLECT THE BUSINESS CONDITIONS

Postal Report Shows That Business Confidence Began To Return Last Five Months of 1908.

The Richmond postoffice—the business barometer of the city—shows a remarkable gain in business for 1908 over 1907, amounting to \$6,343.74. It is reasonable to expect that the gain in general business in the city was in a similar proportion, for the postoffice has always faithfully reflected local trade conditions. The postoffice figures for the past year are as follows:

Month	1907	1908
January	\$ 5,357.17	\$ 6,255.50
February	5,933.17	5,061.75
March	5,615.18	5,072.20
April	5,789.85	5,252.97
May	3,978.48	4,496.96
June	5,133.66	4,548.84
July	6,087.20	5,453.80
August	4,303.66	4,939.84
September	4,231.31	4,772.41
October	4,990.74	5,244.63
November	4,875.18	5,472.57
December	5,677.05	6,786.87
Total	\$56,518.59	\$63,262.38

Panic Showed Effects.

It will be seen by close scrutiny of the figures that the past year started out with a gain of nearly \$1,000 over the month of January of 1907, but for the next two months the postal receipts were several hundred dollars short of corresponding months of the previous year. This is attributed to the panic of the latter part of 1907 and the early part of 1908. As the postoffice is a business barometer, it is shown that the merchants and manufacturers of the city had a very discouraging outlook at the beginning of the year. There is probably one month of the year, January, which is not exactly a business barometer.

This is due to the large number of postal cards and calendars sent out and therefore the gain of this month last year over the same month of 1907 is not a true reflection of the business done locally.

Business Braces in May.

As the year 1908 proceeded a sudden brace was taken in business all about May, or rather business again became more nearly normal. It was in the month of May, 1907, that the first panic vibrations were felt, and the postal receipts tell the story. However, in June and July, 1907 the business again took a brace and the gross receipts were in excess to corresponding months of 1908. But after that, in 1907 the receipts became less and less and were far below normal. In the last five months of 1908 business became quite steady and is now again at normal, if the same months of 1906 are taken as a business criterion.

Electric Helped Business.

The national election last fall was expected to hurt the business of the country but it does not seem to have done so. This is attributed to the absolute certainty of the business world that the republican administration would continue in power and the policy of the government would not be changed.

Although business for the year was much better than was it in 1907, the most notable change was in the past month. It will be remembered that the merchants of the city stated the Christmas business was greatly in excess of that for the holidays of 1907. The postal receipts were compiled by Finance Clerk Otto Sprong.

## THE WEATHER PROPHET.

INDIANA AND OHIO—Sunday fair: slowly rising temperature.

## Roumanian Princess Drives Out Diplomat



PRINCESS MARIE AND CHILD.

Crown Princess Marie of Roumania, daughter of the late Duke of Edinburg, has shown her power by compelling the withdrawal of a prominent diplomat from Bucharest, because of the scandal connected with his name. She has the reputation of being the mother of the hand-some royal children in Europe. She is shown in the picture with one of her little daughters.

## ASK REMOVAL OF ADMINISTRATOR

## HALF THE WARDS CLAIMED BY DRY'S

Heirs Charge James Scott Used Improper Methods in Null Estate Matter.

## "TRUMPED UP" CLAIMS.

## COUNTY MAJORITY 1,500.

ALLEGES THAT SCOTT INTENDS TO MAKE HIS POSITION ONE OF PROFIT TO DISADVANTAGE OF DIRECT HEIRS.

Upon the charge that he had stooped to ulterior methods and "trumped-up" claims, a petition has been filed in the Wayne circuit court requesting the removal of James M. Scott as administrator of the estate of Henry Null. The petitioners are Sarah Null, Emma Farrow, Michael Fry, John Null and Jennie Rees. Scott is administrator under the law of the estate of Null upon his own solicitation. He has filed a claim for \$500 against the estate and his mother-in-law has entered another claim for more than \$8,000. The estate is valued at \$12,000. The petition sets forth that Henry Null died intestate March 26, leaving no widow. At the time of his death he possessed real and personal property valued at \$12,000. April 14, Scott filed a petition requesting he be appointed administrator. The appointment was made on the following day and Scott qualified for the position. It is alleged that since his appointment he has done very little towards the settlement of the estate