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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 which he found literally razed to the ground. He telegraphed Premier Giolitti: "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 fights, not only between men but between men and dogs for food and famine and thirst terrify 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.

## 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 confagurations 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.

## Apprehension Is Felt Over Safety of McNutt

Former Richmond Man Was in Italy at Time of the Recent Earthquake Catastrophe.

Local friends are somewhat apprehensive as to the safety of Francis McNutt, formerly of this city and at one time a member of the Pope's household. Mr. McNutt left this country some weeks ago and intended to sojourn in Italy. Whether or not it was his intention to go to the southern extremity of the peninsula or visit the island of Sicily is not known.

## 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, if 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, and 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.

## 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	\$ 5,387.17	\$ 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	4,400.96
June	5,133.66	4,548.88
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	\$56,818.59	\$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 along 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.

## Election 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 it was 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 Sprang.

## 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 Edinburgh, 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 handsomest royal children in Europe. She is shown in the picture with one of her little daughters.

## ASK REMOVAL OF ADMINISTRATOR

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

## "TRUMPED UP" CLAIMS.

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 Reese. 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. It is charged that he is not related to the decedent except distantly through his wife, and that she is not even an heir. The Scotts made their home with the decedent and managed and cultivated the farm. The administrator has filed a claim for \$500 for services rendered for this work and for bathing Null in liniment from the years 1903 until the date of Null's death.

It is averred that in May of last year Elizabeth Fanster entered a bill against the Null estate for \$8,384 for services performed for the decedent since June, 1894. It is charged the claims are unfair, without merit and "trumped-up." It is declared Scott encouraged his mother-in-law to file the claim and prosecute it and does not intend to defend the estate against the claim. It is stated he secured the appointment simply by representing himself a resident of the county.

## TO REFORM SCHOOL.

Oscar Mashmeyer, deputy sheriff, went to Plainfield today. He took with him John Miller, a colored boy, who will be placed in the boy's reform school. Miller was a persistent juvenile thief.

## HALF THE WARDS CLAIMED BY DRYS

First Ward Conceded to Wets While Three Are Listed As Doubtful.

## COUNTY MAJORITY 1,500.

SECRETARY THOMPSON OF OPTION CENTRAL COMMITTEE EXPECTS TO CARRY WAYNE BY A LARGE VOTE.

After January 27 and before February 3 the voters of Wayne county will have determined whether the county shall be wet or dry. In fact it is almost compulsory that the election be held between these two dates according to the law. The local option workers have been informed that the county commissioners will not act on their petition until next Wednesday. The commissioners are obliged to give the matter favorable consideration and set a date for the election not less than twenty days after, nor more than thirty days after the receipt of the petition.

## All Absorbing Topic.

What this county will do, is the all-absorbing topic of consideration. It is claimed by both sides that many men do not know where they stand. Secretary E. R. Thompson, of the local option workers, stated this morning that the county would go dry by 1,500 and that the city break even or better.

Just one half of the number of wards in the city are expected to give the drys the majority. They are listed as follows: First, wet; Second, doubtful; Third, doubtful; Fourth, doubtful; and the Fifth, Sixth, Seventh and Eighth wards dry. In the territory claimed by the drys there is not a saloon.

## RAILROADERS HAVE A FIGHT

Raymond Henderson Arrested On Assault Charge.

Raymond Henderson has been arrested on the charge of assault and battery upon George Wessel. Both men are railroaders. The trouble is alleged to have taken place in the Panhandle yards. Wessel has a badly bruised face and he declared its condition is the result of his mistreatment by Henderson. This case is set for trial in city court Monday. The offense was committed December 27.

## HONAN HAS THE SPEAKERSHIP NAILED DOWN

Seymour Statesman Will Be Selected for the Job at Democratic Caucus Held Night Before Session.

## SLACK LOSES GROUND IN SENATORIAL RACE

Shiveley of South Bend Has Made Gains, But Will Lose Unless a Combination Is Formed.

Palladium Bureau, Indianapolis, Jan. 2.

While the fight for the speakership of the house seems to have narrowed down to such a point that it is about all over but the shouting, the race for senator is still on in full blast, with three of the candidates running neck and neck. The speakership was all but settled long ago, but the withdrawal of Representative Strickland, of Greenfield, and Representative John B. Faulkner, of Michigan City, as candidates practically put the finishing touches on the result. Representative Tom Honan, of Seymour, will be elected speaker as sure as the caucus meets on the night before the session of the legislature opens.

## Honan Has a Cinch.

Honan's only formidable opponent now is Representative James Garrard, of Vincennes, and he has not enough votes to win with. It has all along been practically admitted by everybody but the candidates themselves that Honan would win out, because he was the floor leader of the democrats at the last session and is a hard working democrat who stands well with the democratic state organization. The organization is for him and has been ever since the campaign started.

Representative W. S. Wells, of Allen county, is a candidate also for speaker—at least, he says he is—and he says he is after the job with both feet, now that Strickland and Faulkner are out of the race. But there is no one who believes that Wells has a chance and there are few who believe that he really wants the place. They believe that he would be just as well satisfied with the chairmanship of a good committee—the insurance committee, for instance, and he will probably get that and probably others.

## Believes He Has Chance.

Garrard says he will stay in the race because he believes he has a chance to win. He goes on the theory, and it is not a bad one, that there will be a good many representatives who will not be willing to accept any dictation from the state organization of the party and that they will vote as they please. He believes he will get a good many of these votes, and this gives him hope.

But it is different with the senatorship. None of the candidates is willing to admit that he does not have as good a chance now as ever. Each man seems to believe he is going to be elected. But the fact is, unquestionably, that unless a miracle happens, John W. Kern will be chosen. It is almost impossible to figure out how they can beat him. He has more votes than the rank and file of the party counts for much more than the head. Even the politicians, if they wanted to disregard the will of the people, are not able to do so all the time, and this is one of the times when it looks like the people in the democratic party will compel the members of the legislature to do what they wish done.

## Slack Loses Footing.

Indications just now are that Slack has lost some of his footing in the last week or two. Not that he has not as good a chance as any other candidate outside of Kern, for he has, but his prospects do not seem to brighten in the least as time goes on. B. F. Shiveley has made gains and is stronger now than he has been at any time in the past, but unless combinations are formed in his interest he cannot win. There has been talk about a coalition between Shiveley and Steve Fleming, of Fort Wayne, by which Fleming was to swing the Twelfth district to Shiveley in case Edward G. Hoffman, of Fort Wayne fails of election, and the talk has attracted some attention, but it is not believed that Fleming could swing the entire Twelfth district to Shiveley or anyone else. In fact, there is no candidate who could swing his entire district delegation to any other candidate at any time in the fight. There is going to be more independence than that in the house.

## From Same Source.

This same talk said that Representative Garrard, of Vincennes, candidate for speaker, was to enter the combine with Shiveley and Fleming, Garrard to receive their votes for speaker in return for his throwing the votes of the Second district to Shiveley for senator. The Second district has no candidate for senator and for a few days this talk took pretty well, but soon the observers came to the conclusion that in making such a deal