

50,000 DEAD OR INJURED

Whole Towns Wiped Out by the Earthquake, According to the Reports Which Were Received This Morning from Many Parts of the Stricken Territory

OVER 15,000 DEAD ABOUT AVEZZANO

Earthquake Zone Extended a Distance of Nearly 300 Miles, and Country East and South of Rome Seems to Have Suffered Most Severely

Rome, Jan. 14.—With every hour as additional and more accurate details are received, the horror of the earthquake of yesterday increases, threatening to place it second only to the Messina disaster of 1908.

The full extent of the property loss has not yet been determined. Here in Rome priceless statues, century-old buildings and structures which have been the mecca of visitors for years were destroyed or injured.

Through the loss of life and possibly the amount of damage may be smaller than in 1908, the area of the disturbance greatly exceeds the Messina earthquake and covers a belt estimated about 300 miles long and extends practically from one side of Italy to the other.

Rome, Jan. 14.—Late reports from the zone which suffered from yesterday's earthquake, while still fragmentary, indicate an appalling loss of life and property.

King Victor Emmanuel is preparing to visit the stricken section and Pope Benedict has expressed a desire to go to the spot if his presence is necessary to encourage and comfort the distressed.

For a time the people were stricken with fear and there was a veritable panic in the hospitals, monasteries and convents.

So violent was the shock that the dome of the Church of St. Charles Calistini was cracked. A large piece of the cornice of the Jesuit Church of St. Ignazio broke and fell with a crash which greatly added to the fright of the persons in the neighborhood.

Collapsing in many of the houses fell a number of persons being injured in that manner.

A colossal statue which occupied a position visible from many parts of Rome fell, and was shattered on the steps of the edifice.

Several street car lines suspended operations because of the damages caused by the earthquake.

earthquake shock occurred here yesterday and caused a panic.

It is reported that many houses fell in Caserta, northeast of Naples. All the glass in the observatory on Mount Vesuvius was broken.

In the Church of the Divine Providence sisters were praying around the bier of a dead nun when the first tremor of the earthquake caused one of her arms to move.

Great crowds of the populace also fled into the thoroughfares when the earthquake came. They formed into processions, reciting the litany of the saints.

Many of the people in their excitement declared that the earthquake was a punishment for the sins of men who are fighting against their brothers in the European war.

ANOTHER SHOCK TO-DAY.

People Fled Again from Their Homes in Panic.

London, 12:40 p. m., Jan. 14.—A news agency dispatch from Rome says further that a distinct earth shock was felt in Rome at 3 o'clock this morning. In several quarters of the city people fled from their homes.

RUSSIA RESUMES THE OFFENSIVE

Against Germany in the North and Turkey in the South—Great Movements of Troop in Germany Suspected.

Russia has once more undertaken an offensive movement against two of the three nations she is fighting. After a long period of inactivity her forces in the north are attempting to penetrate from two directions into east Prussia.

On the western battlefields the fighting in the region of Soissons has developed into unexpectedly large proportions. Both the Germans and the allies apparently have thrown in heavy reinforcements and definite defeat for either side might result in reshaping the battle line over a long section of the front.

Not only in the Soissons region but elsewhere along the front, Germany is believed to be sending in more troops in response to a movement of England which is pouring in fresh soldiers weekly by the thousands.

Although the Russian forces in northern Persia apparently offered no resistance to the Turkish advances on Tabriz small forces of Persians defended their country from invasion, but with no success.

FINEST BUTTER EXHIBITS.

Were Made By George Gebbie of Groton and John Bond of East Montpelier.

Groton, Jan. 14.—At the meeting of the Vermont State Dairywomen's association yesterday afternoon the awards for the best exhibits of butter, a \$25 loving cup in each of two classes, creamery and dairy, were made on the following scale of points: Flavor, 50; texture and grain, 25; color, 15; salt, 10; general appearance, 5.

The sample of dairy butter submitted by George Gebbie of Groton, who scored 97 1/2 points, won first award. In this case the separator was the DeLaval; color, Wells & Richardson; salt, Worcester. The points scored were: Flavor, 47 1/2; grain, 25; color, 10; salt, 10; general appearance, 3. There were 91 samples of butter in all.

VERMONT COLONIAL DAMES.

Held Their Annual Meet at Montpelier.

Vermont Society of Colonial Dames held its 17th annual meeting at the Kellogg-Hathard library in Montpelier yesterday afternoon, the session being occupied with the reports of officers and the election of officers. The officers are: President, Mrs. George M. Smith, Montpelier; vice presidents, Mrs. E. Curtis, St. Albans, Mrs. George Allen, Fair Haven, Mrs. Fred Blanchard, Montpelier, Mrs. C. N. Caswell, Rutland; treasurer, Mrs. E. M. Fendler, Willsiey; historian, Mrs. E. M. Fendler, Willsiey; recording secretary, Mrs. Mason S. Stone, Montpelier; Mrs. Mamie Patterson of Fair Haven and Mrs. Jennie M. Valentine of Bennington were the two new members elected to the board of management.

Mrs. Jennie M. Valentine of Bennington, recording secretary and several state officers made addresses. An increase in the membership was reported by the secretary. Last evening a reception was given at the home of Mrs. H. M. Carter, to which visiting members of the D. A. E. and Daughters of 1812 were invited.

RE-ELECTED BY DAIRYMEN.

J. G. Turnbull Was Elected President To-day.

Rutland, Jan. 14.—At the closing session of the dairymen this afternoon the attendance of 1,200 was the greatest ever known. J. G. Turnbull of Barton was re-elected president; F. H. Buckland, secretary; M. A. Adams of Derby, treasurer.

The banquet to-night promises to be a big affair. F. J. Fish of Vergennes will be toastmaster and Governor Gates will attend.

Miss Virginia C. Foster of Poultney has returned to answer her usual appointment at Montpelier assembly. Miss Foster will be in there on Thursday night, January 15, in the double of Miss Gladys S. Gale, 49 Wellington street, who will be glad to talk with prospective pupils at that time or by telephone at Montpelier, Vermont, during the week.

FINE CHURCH DESTROYED

Grace Episcopal Church Edifice at St. Johnsbury

LOSS OF \$40,000 SUSTAINED TO-DAY

Flames Apparently Started Near the Furnace

St. Johnsbury, Jan. 14.—Fire to-day destroyed the Grace Methodist Episcopal church structure, causing a loss of \$40,000. The fire apparently started near the furnace. A good insurance is carried through local agencies, and it is thought that the edifice will be rebuilt and in more ample size than the old. It was only a few years ago that the church was partially burned and rebuilt. Rev. George A. Martin is the present pastor of the society.

The fire was one of the most spectacular in St. Johnsbury for a long time, because of the nature of the construction of the building with a large bell tower. There was grave apprehension lest this tower fall on some of the neighboring buildings, and the occupants of those structures were ordered out until the tower collapsed on itself after being partially burned. The structure was at 10:30 this forenoon. Half an hour before the tower fell, the supports of the bell were burned away, and the bell fell with a great crash. The fire was still burning this afternoon, but the flames were under control, after having been confined to the church edifice. The parsonage building on the same property was saved. On nearby lots were the new St. Johnsbury house, the Goss garage, the Colonial theatre and a business block containing stores and the office of the Western Union Telegraph company. The church was located on Central street.

The fire was discovered at 8 o'clock and was breaking out of the vestry at that hour. The flames had made much progress, and it was impossible to save the structure, although the firemen worked hard. There was a midnight meeting in the structure last evening, and it is thought probable that the furnace became overheated during the night, setting fire to some of the timbers. There are theories of defective wiring, too, but those theories are not generally held. The building was of wood, with slate roof, and was the second largest church in town.

The ladies' aid society of the church showed an excellent report and their help during the year was very noticeable. They are worthy of much commendation for the good work they are doing. From the ladies' auxiliary also came a splendid report; they were able to turn over to the managers much of their earnings. This society is composed of the younger women of the church and for the short time they have been established they have made a remarkable showing.

Following the receipt of final papers toward citizenship.

Citizens in the making to the number of 35 appeared before Clerk Fred S. Platt of Rutland in a session of United States naturalization court at city hall Wednesday afternoon and evening. Twenty candidates received final papers and will take the oath of allegiance to the government later. The remaining applicants were granted first papers. Clerk Platt was assisted by United States Examiner Allan F. Deane, Deputy U. S. Marshal George Lackey of Montpelier, C. DeF. Bancroft of Montpelier, acting in an intermediary capacity, Assistant Bailiff Augustus M. Rossi and Misses Theriault and Hill of Montpelier.

Following a list of those who received second or final papers: Douglas Alexander Clark, Scotland; Carune DeLasio, Italy; Carlo Abate, Italy; Alfredo Casanova, Italy; Adam C. Craig, Scotland; Antonio Gallotti, Pietro Gallotti, Scio, Ireland; John A. Hedberg, Sweden; Oskar Blomland, Finland; Jacob Jacobson, Finland; Alexander F. Miller, Scotland; William R. Milne, Scotland; Peter M. Reid, Scotland; Francesco Sassi, Italy; James Cummings, Scotland; Carlo Binetti, Switzerland; Fred Lowry, Canada; Salsen Alex Naleby, Syria; Pietro Chiodi, Italy; Attilio Formisetti, Italy.

Candidates who applied for and received their first papers were: Frank Maine, Italy; John Givardo, Italy; David F. Anderson, Sweden; Attilio Danoso, Italy; James Dunbar, Scotland; George C. Furler, Scotland; August Kujupina, Finland; Angelo Lantranchi, Italy; Wario Lindholm, Finland; Anselmo Masi, Italy; Arthur J. Paradis, Canada; Joseph Rodwell, Italy; Pasquale Tamburino, Italy; Antonio Testagranni, Italy; Andrew Walker, Scotland.

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EXCELLENT PROSPECTS FOR PRESBYTERIANS

At Annual Meeting Last Evening Most Encouraging Reports Were Given and Members Were Enthusiastic.

A large number of members, friends and adherents of the Presbyterian church gathered in the vestry of the church last evening to transact the business of the year just passed and to hear the reports of the several societies connected with the work of the church. After having heard the reports, members could not help feeling gratified over the splendid showing the church had made the past year, in spite of the fact that during a period in the summer months they were without a regular pastor. Gains were noticeable in every department, not merely in membership but financially as well.

From facts given by Rev. Edgar Crossland, the pastor, he together with the former pastor, Rev. D. Salmond, officiated at nine marriages, seven baptisms, five funerals (since the new pastor took up his duties) and during the year 18 new members were taken into the fellowship of the church. Mr. Crossland has taken a good deal of the work and during the present year's work is completed even better statistics than the above are expected. The pastor finds a very large pastoral work here and he realizes the necessity of keeping at it for the future welfare of the church.

From the treasurer came a most gratifying report of the finances of the church. Great gains were made to meet the larger expenditures incurred in the work of getting a new pastor and the upkeep of the manse. Perhaps one of the most pleasing reports made was that of the Sunday school. This body is now a self-sustaining organization and for the year ending Dec. 31, 1914, a balance of over \$50 remains in the treasury to begin the new year. The school also kept up a remarkable attendance during the year and the average for the entire year was 154.

The ladies' aid society of the church showed an excellent report and their help during the year was very noticeable. They are worthy of much commendation for the good work they are doing. From the ladies' auxiliary also came a splendid report; they were able to turn over to the managers much of their earnings. This society is composed of the younger women of the church and for the short time they have been established they have made a remarkable showing.

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HEDGEHOG BILL KILLED

House Made Short Work Today of First Measure of the Sort

SENATE RECONSIDERS VOTERS' RESTRICTIONS

House Adjourned Early Out of Respect to Judge J. L. Martin

Out of respect to the memory of the late United States Judge James L. Martin of Brattleboro, the House of Representatives, of which he was speaker from 1878 to 1884, adjourned this morning at 11 o'clock, on the motion of Representative Parry of Brattleboro, following the finishing of routine business. Chaplain Willis in his devotional exercises also referred to the untimely demise of Judge Martin.

A message from Governor Gates to the House, announcing the fact that House bill No. 24 pertaining to the repairing of Franklin county jail had been signed, was read and this special act passed under suspension of rules by both houses is the first to become a law.

An indication of the disposition of the House was made when the general committee reported that House bill No. 7, the hedgehog measure which was introduced by Representative Perkins of Bridgewater, ought not to pass, and the House voted down the proposition to read the bill the third time.

On motion of Mr. Caswell of Derby it was voted to return to the general committee from the calendar, H. R. 31, a bill relating to vehicles carrying lights at night on public highways.

The speaker announced the following additional committee appointments: Military affairs, Hinsdale of St. George; Cummings of Castleton; internal affairs, Blanchard of Vershire, LaBombard of Isle La Motte; minor courts, Foster of Sudbury, Spaulding of Plymouth; conservation, Eddy of Monkton.

Bills introduced in House.

By Mr. Jackson of Jericho, an act to amend certain sections of the public statutes relating to the practice of medicine and surgery. (Fixes fee of \$20 for examination for license to practice medicine; \$10 fee for examination to practice midwifery.)

By Mr. Perry of Brattleboro, an act to enable the Brattleboro graded school district to issue bonds for the purposes therein named. (May bond for \$25,000 for purpose of paying for schoolhouse site.)

By Mr. Morse of Hardwick, an act to amend section 11 of No. 152 of the acts of 1908, entitled "an act defining optometry and regulating the practice thereof." (Penalty for violation of this act, \$100 fine, three months in house of correction or both, and liability of civil suit.)

By Mr. Dimond of Manchester, an act to amend section 5,220 of the public statutes, relating to the killing of dogs. (Persons may kill dogs found wandering or killing any domestic animals.)

By Melendy of Londonderry, an act to amend section 3,426 of the public statutes, as amended by No. 82 of the acts of 1908, No. 107 of the acts of 1910, and No. 118 of the acts of 1912, relating to the election of town officers. (Selectmen to be elected annually for one year.)

By Mr. Eaton of Woodstock, an act to appropriate money in aid of agricultural fairs. (Fair association declaring dividends or paying profits, excluded from participation in the appropriations made by state.)

By Mr. Hollister of Bennington, an act to regulate the sale of opium, morphine and other narcotic drugs. (Prohibits sale of such drugs except on prescription of a physician, dentist or veterinary surgeon.)

By Mr. Henshaw of Pittsford, an act to amend section 2,482 of the public statutes, relating to town clerks. (Clerks may take acknowledgment of deeds and other instruments in his county, and administer oaths when the instrument is returnable to his office.)

By Mr. Booth of Ferrisburgh, an act to amend sub-division "B" of section 31 of No. 203 of the acts of 1912, relating to fish and game. (Pickers not less than 12 inches in length may be taken in Lake Champlain and its tributaries from March 1 to May 1, by persons having a hunting license.)

By the committee on agriculture, an act to amend section 11 of No. 11 of the acts of 1908, as amended by section 2 of No. 38 of the acts of 1910, creating a board of veterinarians and forestry. (Appropriates \$20,000 annually.)

the authority to vote at a Vermont election. The bill was reamended. In executive session the Senate confirmed the appointments of G. H. Perkins as state geologist, Dr. F. E. Steele supervisor of the insane, Dr. D. D. Burditt trustee of the state hospital, Charles A. Plumley tax commissioner, Dr. H. D. Helton to the state board of health, and Allan Calhoun state factory inspector.

The Senate reconsidered a joint resolution to pay Homer L. Skelton the sum therein named. Senator Divoll of Windham interrogated the chair relative to forming a precedent. President Powell stated it was a new precedent. Senator Brown of Windsor favored it because of the Senate rules. Senator Page of Caledonia stated no one appeared before the committee relative to the matter and upon motion of Senator Simonds the resolution was recommitted.

Three bills were introduced in the House yesterday afternoon, one providing for clerk hire for the state fish and game commissioner, with a salary of \$2,500 annually. Mr. Hapgood of Peru would eliminate the use of the cross at the top of a ballot, requiring that a cross be made after each name on the ticket, and he embodies this idea in House bill 61. A bill to require taxation on deposits and accumulations in savings banks and trust companies was submitted among the bills. Mr. McClary of Windsor being the father of the proposed act, which would amend section 745 of the public statutes as amended by section 2 of No. 35 of the acts of 1910.

A resolution to equip the offices at the State House, of the lieutenant governor, speaker of the House, secretary of civil and military affairs and commissioner of taxes, was submitted by Redfield Proctor of Proctor and referred to the committee on state and court expenses. In the Senate a resolution was passed relative to paying John E. Harris for services last week as official reporter of the Senate.

Spencer Weeks announced at the opening of the House yesterday afternoon that investigation of the House journal of the last session disclosed the fact that on the 8th, the beginning of the second week, but one bill had been introduced and the excellent start of the present session, when 61 bills have been introduced and two have been passed to the third reading and one passed by both houses.

The speaker also stated that the various committees have been reporting in good shape but cautioned the representatives lest this good work wane.

GIVES FIDELITY BOND.

State Treasurer Scott Presents Security Rejected by Gov. Fletcher.

State Treasurer Walter F. Scott of Brandon has filed his bond of \$100,000 required by law, giving the American Fidelity company as surety. It will be remembered that last summer, Allen M. Fletcher, then governor, objected strongly against the American Fidelity as surety for treasurer Edward H. Deavitt. The new bond has been approved by Gov. Gates.

PRESENTED SIGNET RING.

Former State Treasurer Deavitt Given Fine Token.

Edward H. Deavitt of Montpelier, the retiring state treasurer, was shown the good will of his State House colleagues to-day, when he was presented a gold signet ring. The presentation was made by State Auditor H. F. Graham, and Mr. Deavitt made a fitting response.

56,926 BOOKS TAKEN OUT.

Aldrich Library Served Many People During the Year.

According to the report of Miss K. K. Mathison, librarian of the Aldrich public library, the total circulation of books from that institution in 1914 was 56,926, and the library has a total of 11,113 books, of which number 379 were purchased or added by gift during 1914. Her report is as follows:

Total circulation of books was 56,926—adult fiction, 32,685; juvenile fiction, 15,709; adult class, 5,130; juvenile class, 3,502. The percentages were as follows—adult fiction, 58 per cent; juvenile fiction, 28 per cent; adult class, 9 per cent; juvenile class, 7 per cent.

The total registration for the year 1914 was 782—498 adult and 284 juvenile, making a total registration for the entire time since the opening of the library in its present home, 7,917.

During the year 379 books have been added to the shelves, 74 of these being gifts. There are also on hand 50 books that have been presented to the library from the estate of the late Mrs. H. H. Mathison. He was a member of the library from 1882, when he moved to Brattleboro, at which place he was appointed United States judge in October, 1906, meanwhile serving as U. S. district attorney through appointment by President McKinley and President Roosevelt. He was in his third term as district attorney