

THE EARTHQUAKE AND THE FUTURE

The business centre of Kingston is today a mass of ruins, and practically no portion of the city has been left untouched. At 3:35 on Monday evening we were struck by an earthquake, and within 40 seconds our capital had fallen and over 1,000 persons lay dead and dying on the ground.

The blow has been terrible. Just when we were talking of returning prosperity the hand of adversity has again touched us, and once more we are called upon to fight our way forward. We will do so. We will not allow ourselves to be terrified. We will build Kingston again, and, with God's help, will build it better.

We have not received a setback for another fifty years, as some are saying. Time and again the capitals of Spanish-American countries have been destroyed, but never have the people despaired. We are not made of inferior stuff. We shall recover from this blow as we have recovered from all former ones. The industries of the island are absolutely uninjured. In this and in our energy lies our future hope. We must "work and despair not."

STORY OF THE DESTRUCTION

It will be weeks and perhaps months before the story can be told in detail of the almost complete destruction of Kingston by earthquake and by fire on the afternoon of Monday 14th instant.

It is a fearful story and never be amply told.

The first destructive shock occurred at 3:35 p.m. It lasted about thirty seconds. And these few moments served to throw the city into woe and consternation.

When the shock subsided, thousands of buildings had fallen with a terrific roar.

Not so much fallen, perhaps, as crumbled to dust and debris. Huge walls fell in the commercial part of the city. Some from the south went northward; and others from the north toppled over to meet the crash from the opposite side. These walls all tumbling together crushed all who happened to be on the side-walks or in the streets. Hundreds of people were killed instantly in this way and omnibuses, and in one and two instances, street cars were crushed to atoms.

A member of the "Gleaner" staff who fought his way through the office wreckage was one of the first persons on Harbour street after the disaster, looked at the east and to the west, and not a living soul was to be seen. In a moment or two a few figures came struggling through the mass of broken timber and scattered bricks. They were mostly all injured, and blood was flowing freely.

A few thoughtful individuals, although injured themselves, started to rescue several of those who were buried.

But this humane work was interrupted within five minutes by the approach of fire which had before made its appearance to the west of the city.

The fire brigade had been demolished by the earthquake and there were no means of fighting the outbreak; and the fire swept over an area bounded by the sea to the south, Southern Parade to the north, Mark Lane to the east and Orange Street to the west.

Next morning hundreds of bodies were found burned and charred along the principal streets. It is believed that many who had been injured and unable to help themselves were burnt to death by the flames. All these bodies were at once taken up for burial.

With the large number of deaths the supply of coffins soon gave out and the bodies were buried wrapped in sheets and in hastily dug trenches.

Up to this morning bodies were still being recovered.

It is conservatively estimated that the death list will exceed one thousand when all the bodies have been recovered.

On Tuesday morning the military and police authorities took control of the city and a stop was put to petty looting that occurred in some parts of the city. Lines of sentries were stationed in all the streets to prevent indiscriminate ingress and egress.

On Thursday the U. S. warships Missouri and Indiana came into the harbour and at once landed bluejackets, took some of the injured on board for proper care, and placed their stores at the disposal of the Government.

At the hospital, which was overtaxed from the start, the scene has been very busy. On Tuesday and Wednesday Lady Swettenham and Miss Copeland served as cooks at the institution, whilst Mrs. Bourne, Mrs. Bourne and Mrs. Ker and other ladies served as nurses.

The hospital staff was largely augmented for the occasion and considerable pressure still obtains there. Dr. Ker, S.M.O., went to work with the staff doctors, and several district medical officers were brought in, including Dr. Turton, from Stony Hill; Dr. Thomson from Chapelton, Dr. Neish from Spanish Town; and Dr. Campbell, from St. David's. Dr. Edwards, of Gordon Town, who was a patient in the hospital, forgot his own ailments and at once proceeded to join the hospital staff. All hands have been working night and day and yet there are cases still to be attended to.

On Monday night 27 legs were amputated. The same evening several clergymen and priests went over the city ministering to the injured and the dying. The Governor gave the clergy money to provide conveyances to the hospital for the injured.

The Governor and the Colonial Secretary and other officials were also busy in various parts of the city.

There are very few habitable houses in Kingston and Lower St. Andrew and the population is camped on the Race Course, and in the Park and in other open places.

DEATH LIST

A Jamaica Gazette Extraordinary, published yesterday, says "It is hereby notified for general information, that the S. S. Port Kingston will remain one day longer for commercial purposes."

“It is hereby notified that the Gazette will be published daily for notification of deaths due to the recent Earthquake.”

“The Governor announces with great regret that up to noon on the 16th instant, 343 persons had been buried as a result of the Earthquake. It is also ascertained that 3 were killed at Port Royal. The names and places of interment of the dead, so far as ascertained, will be published tomorrow and information is invited in order to make the list of names as complete as possible.”

PARTIAL LIST OF THE DEAD

Sigismund Depass, Army & Navy Stores

Wyndham Depass, Army & Navy Stores

Abraham Henriques, Army & Navy Stores

1 Boy

2 Storemen

J. W. Middleton, Merchant

Philip Henriques, Clerk at Middleton's

Mr. Lopez

Isaac S. Brandon, Merchant

D. I. Motta

Dr. Motta

Mr. Priest of the Bee Hive

Mr. Oscar Prendergast, Bee Hive

Mr. E. M. Morrice, Auctioneer

Mr. Barnett Stines, Auctioneer

Edgar DeCordova, Forage Store

R. W. Bradley

B. L. Verley of Messrs. Harvey & Bourke

Bertie DaCosta of C. M. DaCosta

Ernest A. Samuel, Merchant

Lionel M. Mordecai, Merchant

George Harty of J. Wray & Nephew

M. C. Hendricks jnr, J. Wray & Nephew

Jose F. Perez, Consul of Cuba

Juan Fernandez of Machado's, and a number of others whose names are unknown

R. Honiball, Solicitor

W. A. Pain, Secretary Victoria Mutual

A. McDowell Nathan, Merchant

Charles S. Sherlock, Merchant

Sir James Ferguson, Baronet, Deputy Chairman Royal Mail Co.

Capt. T. Constantine, supt. Royal Mail Co.

Capt. Young of the Arno

W. E. Powell of Emanuel Lyons & Son, Ltd.

Herbert Clarke, Emanuel Lyons & Son, Ltd.

Vincent Wray, Emanuel Lyons & Son, Ltd.

Arthur Williams, Emanuel Lyons & Son, Ltd.

Burke, storeman, Emanuel Lyons & Son, Ltd.

Joseph Miller, Emanuel Lyons & Son, Ltd.

Mr. Wilson (manager of Caymanas Estate)

W. Branday of Branday, Edwards & Co.

W. Thwaites, merchant

L. Stribos of Finke & Co.

Gordon Duff

E. Eden, son of W. T. Eden

Alexander Walker

Herbert Tavares

Marcus Delgado

Harold Ritchie

Dr. J. M. Gibb

J. Downes Wylie

George A. Desnoes

A. H. Depass, Government Savings Bank

George Carvalho, Arnold Malabre & Co.

C. B. Weckiser, Arnold Malabre & Co.

H. Isles jnr, Arnold Malabre & Co.

Two storemen, Arnold Malabre & Co.

William Walker, Waterloo restaurant

Samuel Lawton

Mignelito Valdez

Horatio Abrahams, Provision Merchant

E. G. Nixon, of Archibald Munroe's

St. Leo DeLisser, Jamaica Tobacco Co.

Ernest Magnus, late of the Electric Light Co.

Norman Samuel of D. I. Motta's

W. Calnek jnr

James C. Chisholm, foreman Gleaner Co., Ltd.

A. Cockburn, compositor Gleaner Co., Ltd.

Robert Powell, office boy Gleaner Co., Ltd.

O. L. Goffe, of William Wilson's

Carter, jnr, of William Wilson's

Joseph Issa, Syrian merchant

H. Ritchie of Anderson and Jacobsen

Seaford, storeman Anderson and Jacobsen

Alfred Lamos, purveyor Royal Mail Co

Livingstone, Government Savings Bank

King, pressman Government Printing Office

E. Mudon, auctioneer

Wolseley Burke, of Burke Bros., Ltd.

Frank D. McCulloch jr. of Burke Bros., Ltd.

Fred Laing of George and Branday

Joseph Adams, Jamaica Times

Leonard Mudahy, tailor, Church Street

H. Maxwell, Post Office

Miss Gordon, Post Office

Miss Wepler, Young & Co

Norman Johnston, secretary Seventh Day Adventists

C. A. Miller, commercial agent

Walter Webster of Nathan Sherlock & Co., Ltd.

Adam Drysdale, carpenter, Myrtle Bank

Hollar, gardener Myrtle Bank

Seymour, footman Myrtle Bank

Campbell, baggage man Myrtle Bank

Hanlan, bell boy Myrtle Bank

C. C. Carvalho, billiard marker Myrtle Bank

Joshua Miller assistant billiard marker Myrtle Bank

John Morrison, boot black Myrtle Bank

Montricle, (Spanish) Myrtle Bank

W. Walker, Commercial agent

Duncan MacDougall

H. E. Borough, merchant

Major W. H. Hardyman, W. I. R.

Lieut. Lamont, W. I. R.

Mrs. Lane, wife of S. M. Lane, W. I. R.

J. Martin of McNish Ltd.

Fred. Magnus, auctioneer

LADIES

Miss Ida Stewart, Bee Hive

Miss Lockett (sister Dr. Lockett)

Miss S. Henderson (youngest sister of Dr. Henderson)

Mrs. Joseph Milligan

Miss Tennyson, Waterloo House

Mrs. John Delisser, Amy Ville North Street

Mrs. Watson, (office woman, Lascelles deMercado @ Co)

Miss Rachael Michaels

Madame Rosseau

Mrs. Chadderton, Dressmaker

Mrs. Baker

Mrs. T. M. Martin, Murcott Lodge, East Race Course

Miss Ellen May Vaz

Office Woman of C. T. Isaacs

Wife and child of Sergt. Major Sudgeon, W. I. R.

NAMES OF SERIOUSLY INJURED IN THE EARTHQUAKE

David Bond, clerk W. Baggett Gray

Moses Athias, auctioneer

Eustace Smith, (capt. Lucas C.C.), H. M. Customs

Charles DeCordova, merchant

Emanuel Abrahams, Em. Lyons and son

Alex. Morrice of Panama

H. A. L. Simpson, solicitor

Herman Stern, merchant

A. G. Solomon of I. Solomon and son

Miss Elvira Williams

N. C. Henriques

Bertie DeCassers, clerk merchants' exchange

Marguerite Henriques

C. Vlies, travelling agent

Percy Lopez, optician

Dugald Harris

H. C. Littlejohn, railway

Egerton Hill

Phillips, clerk Cecil DeCordova

F. Victor Sale of Reid Campbell

Randall, U. F. Company

H. C. Wilson, Island Telegraph

John Fenich

Mrs. L. S. Gruchy

J. Hutton, Waterloo house

Miss Norah Malabre

W. Kirkpatrick, of William Wilsons

Dr. E. E. Bronstorph

Cyril Henriques

NAMES OF INJURED

Archibald Munro, merchant

Frank Lyons

E. F. Phillips, of Charles DeCordova

Harold Delgado

Osmond Delgado, snr.

Osmond Delgado, jnr

Rev. E. A. Bell

Eugene Alberga of Alberga and Co.

H. M. Littlejohn, Royal Mail

T. M. Gunter, Railway

Lucien Alberga, I. Solomon and Son

Miss Gladys Gruchy

A. L. P. Lake, Solicitor

Bertie Tilley

L. Pieterz

James Hunter McNish

Mr. Dixon, H. M. Customs

Mrs. J. J. G. Lewis

Rue Bell (son of the Rev. E. A. Bell)

Colonel J. Dalrymple-Hay, D. S. O.

Lieut. Sedgwick, R. A. M. C.

Lieut. Leader, W. I. R.

“THE DAILY GLEANER”

Like all other establishments in the commercial part of Kingston the “Gleaner” premises and printing works were completely demolished by fire. We are temporarily located in the yard of Headquarters House, Duke Street, and thanks to the kindness and courtesy of Mr. J. C. Ford, Superintendent of the Government Printing Office, we are able to resume publication of the “Gleaner” in the present form. The difficulties are many and serious, but these are being largely decreased by the unfailing attention and thoughtfulness of Mr. Ford and his assistants.

We hope to continue publication from day to day until we have permanently re-established the GLEANER.

FOOD DEPOTS

Colonial Secretary’s Office

18th January, 1907

The following stores are now open. Prices will be published at the first opportunity:-

Wolmers School, Foodstuffs

Dunn, Orange Street, Foodstuffs

Leahong, Barry Street, Foodstuffs

D. C. Vaz, Orange St., Foodstuffs

Hodge, Franklin Town, Foodstuffs

Fursdon, Sutton St. Beef

Other stores carrying on business are invited to communicate their prices to the Colonial Secretary.

By command,

H. Clarence Bourne

Colonial Secretary

THE HOMELESS

Thousands of homeless people have encamped on the Race Course in Kingston. With sheets, blankets and coverlets they have improvised tents to shelter under, and at nights the scene there is a pathetic one. Delicate women and mothers with their babies grouped together in front of their temporary homes look on sadly, and the more emotional, who, kneeling together in a circle work themselves up to a high pitch of religious frenzy. The big circus tent affords shelter to quite a large number whilst the Seventh Day Adventists have also a big tent

which is used for the dual purposes of conducting religious services and for sheltering their flock. Indian tents pitched nearby afford shelter to the pastor and their families. Tents are badly wanted.

NOTICES

The offices of Messrs Corinaldi & Ashenheim Solicitors are temporarily located at Dr. Maunsell's dispensary 45 Duke Street.

Mr. R. S. Gamble, agent for Messrs. Gillespie Bros. & Co. of New York & London, also agent for the London Assurance Corporation, has opened a temporary office at 10 & 12 Harbour Street. Parties having fire claims are requested to send them in at once.

Policy holders in the Scottish Union and National are requested to send in particulars of their policies to Messrs. Manton & Hart the local agents at 117 Harbour Street.

PROCLAMATION

The Governor desires to express his profound sympathy with all persons who have lost relatives or friends by the calamity of the 14th instant.

Also for all those who have suffered in body or property by the same visitation.

He tenders his best thanks to all those who by their actions or example have devoted themselves to repairing the injuries suffered by all classes of people, and he calls upon all persons to take early action to repair the damage done.

His Excellency particularly thanks all those who by their steadiness and patience have rendered the task of the authorities easier in suppressing the fire and in keeping order.

J. A. Swettingham,

Governor

January 16, 1907

MONEY OFFICES

Colonial Secretary's Office,

18 January 1907.

The business of the Treasury, Government Savings Bank and Stamp Office Department is being carried on from today at the Old Mico Buildings.

By command,

H. Clarence Bourne

Colonial Secretary

IN THE COUNTRY

Telegrams to the GLEANER from all parts of the island show that the severe shock was general.

At Black River, the Parish Church was damaged.

At Sav-la-mar everybody rushed to the streets--no damage reported.

Lucea---no damage

Church bell at Hector's River pealed of its own accord.

People of Santa Cruz fled in consternation. Court House wall cracked.

Montego Bay---considerable excitement; no damage.

Morant Bay---Court House and Episcopalian Church damaged. Three shocks felt.

At Spanish Town there was some minor damage in commercial centre.

No damage at Manchioneal or Bath.

From Alley it is reported that Moneymusk chimney is damaged. Buildings are also damaged. Chimneys and buildings at Bog Estate also damaged.

At Port Antonio the shock was slight. Town Hall wall damaged. Titchfield Hotel undamaged.

Much damage in stores of Port Maria. Suspension bridge over Ontram River twisted and approaches damaged. Business had to be suspended.

Cedar Valley Presbyterian Church destroyed. No deaths.

Richmond district has been severely damaged. The earthquake threw down most of the buildings and, as in Kingston, fire completed the ruins.

Troja is reported to be uninjured and no damage is reported from Albany. Between Annotto Bay and Bog Walk the tidal wave was very large, going in about 10 chains and receding far from the shore. Pringle's pier at Annotto Bay is down and Buff Bay suffered considerably from a tidal wave. The Episcopal Church and all the buildings on the Kildare estate also the Market is down.

The Constabulary Station at Annotto Bay was shaken down and all the houses on the Leyton estate destroyed. The shock on Wednesday morning finished many of the tottering buildings and started many fresh fires, but by one o'clock the fires seemed to be under control.

Mr. N. D. Edwards of New York, who arrived at Port Antonio on Monday from Cuba, gives it as his opinion that for the size of the place this disaster is worse than that of San Francisco.

BURNING OF CAMP

Soon after the earthquake on Monday, fire broke out in the hospital at Up Park Camp. A strong breeze was blowing at the time, and in a short time the whole hospital was in flames. About 63 patients were in the hospital at the time, the majority of whom were taken out, but with great difficulty. About 10 men were, however, burnt to death.

All the buildings in Camp have been more or less destroyed. The total deaths there number about 16.

ENGLISH SYMPATHY

A cablegram has been received from Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman expressing the deep sympathy of the British public with the people of Jamaica in their calamity.

A similar message of sympathy has been received from Lord Elgin.

JOTTINGS

Temporary arrangements have been made in connection with the Nova Scotia bank, and it is now opened at the old Mico buildings, Hanover Street. We understand that depositors of the Savings department are being paid.

The Colonial Bank have also made temporary arrangements to carry on at their old stand in Harbor street. The walls have all been blown down.

The match factory on the Slipe Pen road has been very slightly damaged. Work will shortly be resumed which will find employment for several hundred hands.

Messrs. Lascelles DeMercado and Co., agents for Messrs. A. S. Lascelles and Co. of New York and E. A. Depass of London have established themselves in temporary offices in the coach house at the Royal Mail Company's wharf.

Post and Telegraph Offices have been established at Blundell Hall in East Street. Telegrams are being received and forwarded to some parts of the island, and the mails are working all right. The Railway is being run to all the stations as usual.

The W. I. and P. Telegraph Co. have established temporary offices at No. 7 North street. Parties expecting cables are requested to call at these premises for their messages.

Two American warships the Indiana and Missouri and a torpedo boat arrived here from Guantanamo, Cuba, on Wednesday with medical supplies and to render what aid they could. Admiral Wilson, at once communicated with the Governor, and parties were landed. They are assisting in blowing down the dangerous walls.

The culvert leading the water to the reservoir at Hope is down, and the water supply is now obtained from Constant Spring. The supply in Kingston and St. Andrew is continuous though the pressure is somewhat low. Householders should see to it that no water is wasted.

The gas works are intact, but gas cannot be supplied until the city is got into some sort of order again.

The trains take away large numbers of people daily for the country.

All visitors whatsoever in the island are leaving by steamers for their homes.

All the staff of the Island Medical office are still at work at the hospital, Dr. Ker being extremely energetic.

About 60 legs have been amputated at the hospital since Monday night.

Although both legs of Mr. Charles deCordova have been broken, there is some hope that the necessity will not arise to amputate them.

The Port Kingston was converted into an hospital on Monday night. About 47 of the persons who were there have been to the hospital at Spanish Town.

Mrs. Constantine had a serious fracture to one of her legs. It was set by Dr. Neville Williams, an Englishman, who rendered great service at the Public Hospital.

Mrs. Wedderburn has also sustained a broken leg but is progressing very well.

The medical officers who have been assisting at the hospital are Dr. Myers, Dr. George Thomson of Montego Bay, Dr. Vine of Falmouth; Miss Douglas is acting matron at the hospital, the matron being sick.

On Thursday there were 432 persons in the public hospital, and 52 deaths had taken place since Monday night.

PANAMA

Although several cables have been received from Colon and Panama, there is no mention of any disaster there. All seems well.