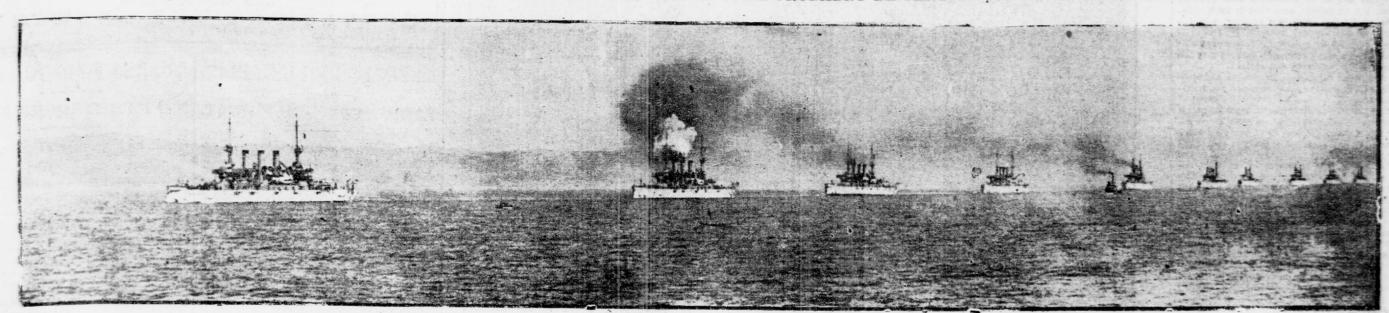
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PRICE THREE CENTS

THE UNITED STATES BATTLESHIP FLEET, NOW IN THE RED SEA, WHICH WILL PROBABLY BE SENT TO MESSINA TO AID IN THE RELIEF WORK



PROSPERITY GREETS A SHIVERING INFANT

OLD YEAR'S GONE.

Wild Crowds of Merrymaliers at Curb and Table Hold Record Celebration.

Noise, noise, noise! All sorts and varieties and conditions of noise. That was the feature of the going of the old year and the coming of

If on the stroke of midnight that marked the going of 1908 and the coming of 1909 there was one inclined to retrospection, reflection and ered "city's varied populace. That such a one-if such there was-could have indulged in such an old-fashioned custom, no matter where he or she might have been, is almost

ring the bells, sound the cymbalsenything, everything that will make a noise! Sing and shout, laugh and dance! This was the spirit that was rampant from the courtyard of revels in the congested centres.

Nor was the noise confined to the streets. In the dining rooms of the big hotels, which indicated clearly the return of prosperity, in the cafes everywhere, which were thronged with merry men and women, the hilarity that had been slowly rising as the clock moved toward midnight burst forth in unbridled joy on the

To be sure, there was a wide gulf between the | had apparently succeeded in stifling their grief. celebration in the East Side cafe and that in the Fifth avenue hotel. But the same desire

ust have been a relief to the ears of the quested that they be not disturbed palsled Old Man-1908-when he passed over the line, away from the shouting and to him heedless world. The shy, shrinking Infant-1909-

must have faltered just the fraction of a second, awed by the tumultuous greetings. But he is here. Vale 1908! Salve 1909!

The old custom of holding a watch night service was observed by many churches throughout the city, notably Old Trinity, in the John Street Church, in St. George's Protestant Episcopal Church and in the Old First Presbyterian. In Old Trinity, the service was early, because later it would have been impossible to be heard on account of the noise of those who were to come, presumably to hear the chimes, who were not to do so because of the racket they would

Those who for years have seen the old year out and the new in under Old Trinity's spire said that the crowds were not so dense as in years gone by. "It is the lure of the restaurant, with its many attractions," said a grizzled old police lieutenant. Harlem listened to the chimes pealing out from St. Andrew's belfry, at 127th street and Fifth avenue.

More than a thousand policemen were on special duty in various congested points to keep a semblance of order and be ready in case of emergency. But they allowed the crowds the usual freedom, and it was seldom that the confetti pest or the tickler abomination was checked by more than a general reminder to "Go aisy there!" The police did their work with patience and forebearance, and took care that the congestion at ne spot reached the danger point.

Up along the Great White Way there were many new varieties of noise makers. One of ing with them. the most popular seemed to be the miniature But the good old cow bell, as in past years,

It was a good-natured, care-free crowd and noise was hailed with shouts of delight.

In spite of the crowds that surged back and forth along Broadway it was remarked by old observers that they were not quite so dense this year, and were more orderly, though no less joyful, than in some past years. The increase in popularity of the eating and drinking method of celebrating New Year's Eve is believed to be responsible for the lessening of the throngs in the

CROWDS IN THE STREETS.

Chimes of Trinity Drowned by Mighty Roar from Below.

The throngs of bilarious folk in lower Broadway Eathered before Trinity Church as usual, made so much noise themselves they did not hear the chimes ring the old year out and the new year in. They had product the new year in. They had paraded up and down Broadway until o'clock, and then sought vantage points along the The police arrangements were admirable. While roughness was inevitable in such a jammed mass of people of all sorts and kinds, it was good at so forgithese, and anything like brutality ecibly discouraged by the more orderly omenaders that police intervention was promer not becessary. Mount ted policemen held the crowds to a considerable extent. At 19:39 a large squad, three deep, was lined up before the gates of

Continued on eighth page.

GRIEVING PARENTS IN SUICIDE PACT

VALE 1908! SALVE 1909! AN PROF. GORDY AND WIFE FOLLOW DEAD CHILD.

Found Lifeless Together a Few Hours After Only Daughter Expires from Pneumonia.

Professor J. P. Gordy, of New York Univer

Forget the old! Look not to the new! Live for Blackman and Miss Florence Post, who re the bedside and staying up the greater part of each night that they might minister to the stricken girl.

Old Trinity in lower Broadway all the way to that Miss Gordy would recover. She had appar-Harlem, running riot and merging into wild ently passed through the crisis of her illness. day night she experienced a severe relapse vesterday morning, when death intervene When the parents were informed that their daughter was dead, their grief was heart-rending, but the sympathy of their friends ap peared to have a soothing effect, and when they were left alone with the body of their child they

About 9 o'clock yesterday morning Professor Gordy and his wife informed Miss Post, one to submerge the stern realities in the brimming the nurses, that they were worn out by the cup of noisy joy for the moment was present in | trials of the last few days and would retire to

It was discovered later that Professor Gordy had written and posted a letter to Professor John E. Lough, of No. 2190 Andrews avenue, The Bronx, also a member of the New York University faculty, before retiring, in which he asked Professor Lough to come immediately to the Paterno apartment house on receipt of the letter. The latter arrived at the home of the Gordys shortly before 2 o'clock yesterday afternoon, and, meeting Dr. R. Van Santvoord, of No. 10 West 122d street, who had attended the daughter throughout her illness, in the elevator, ascended with him to the Gordy apartments, where, after being obliged to break in, they found the bodies.

In addition to the note which he had disnatched to Professor Lough, Professor Gordy had written three other letters, all of them sealed, and addressed to Mrs. Jessie D. Stoddard, of No. 927 West Monroe street, Chicago, a sister of Mrs. Gordy's, and also a note scrawled on a piece of paper, and left on a bureau, which read: "I desire Professor Lough to take charge of our bodies and all funeral arrangements. He will find valuables and papers in the safety deposit vaults at 14th street and Fifth avenue, all of which I desire to go to Mrs. Jessie D. Stoddard.

In answer to questions by Coroner Acritelli, neighbors of the couple declared that after the death of their daughter, the professor and his wife repeated again and again that they no longer cared to live, now that their only child had died, and could not bear the thought of seeing the new year, with its attendant celebrations, ushered in, without their daughter be-

Professor Gordy was fifty-five years of age. trying pan with a castanet accompaniment. He was attached to the Washington Square branch of New York University, where he had and to be responsible for a goodly share of occupied the chair of history of education of the School of Pedagogy since 1901. He was born at Salisbury, Md. Following his early edueach effort to produce a bigger and stranger cation in his native town, he took a course at the University at Leipsic, from which institution he received the degree of doctor of philosophy in 1884. The same degree was conferred on him by the Western University of

Pennsylvania seyen years later. From 1886 to 1896 he was professor of education of Ohio University, and up to 1900 was professor of education in Ohio State University. Besides translating Kuno Fischer's Descartes, Mr. Gordy was the author of "The Growth and Development of the Normal School in the United States," "Textbook on Psychology," "History of Death Record for Year, on the Other Hand, Political Parties in the United States" (two volumes), and at the time of his death was preparing two more: "A Liberal Education" and "Education in the Elementary School." In 1884 he married Miss Eugenia Day, at Dresden, Saxony.

BID OF \$22 FOR BUNYAN WARRANT.

Duplicate of Specimen Offered in London Sold to J. P. Morgan for \$2,000.

London, Dec. 31.-One of the two warrants issue i in 1674 for the arrest of John Bunyan was submitted to sale by auction this afternoon in Lon don and evoked a bid of only \$22. The first amount offered was \$5. The other warrant, presumably a duplicate of the specimen offered to-day, is owned by J. P. Morgan, who is said to have paid \$2,000

Let Us Ticket You To any of the Southern Winter resorts. Large new ships—every convenience—Savannah Line. Office, 317 Broadway.—Advt.



MAP OF THE LIPARI ISLANDS

NEW RECORD FOR WRIGHT

In Air Two Hours and Nine Minutes -Wins Michelin Cup.

Le Mans, France, Dec. 31. - Wilbur Wright, the covered officially a distance of seventy-three miles, but, as a matter of fact, counting the wide turns, he made more than ninety miles. Mr.

After breaking the record Mr. Wright went aloft again with M. Barthou, Minister of Public

Works, as a passenger, By his flight of to-day Mr. Wright wins the

CLEMENCEAU IN DANGER.

Michelin Cup, valued at \$5,000.

Disaffected Corsican Shoots Through Window of Premier's Office.

Paris, Dec. 31.-A disaffected Corsican named

Benedettl fired five shots this evening in the the Strait, to give assistance direction of the window of the office of Premier No one was hurt, but M. Clemenceau had narrow escape. He was scated beside the wir dow, through which crashed two bullets from Benedetti's pistol. At the sound of the firing M. Clemenceau arose and opened the window In the street was an excited individual brandishing a revolver and crying. "Down with the tyrant, long live the republic

Just at this moment the Premier's footman revolver in hand, rushed from the building and started toward Benedetti. "Don't fire!" shouted M. Clemenceau to the footman. "Don't fire!" I nue, between 120th and 121st streets. This invelled the Corsican: "I have thrown away my

Benedetti then submitted to arrest. He asserted that he was aggrieved at M. Clemer who as Minister of the Interior had refused him authorization to launch a lottery scheme. Like the assailants of President Fallières and Major Dreyfus. Benedetti characterized his act as merely "a gesture," designed to procure justice for himself.

SHOT GIRL; HIT BY CARS.

Elizabeth port Commuters Chase Alleged Slayer Into Engine's Path.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]. Elizabeth, N. J., Dec. 31.—Ida Weimer, teen years old, was shot and killed to-night b Alexander Cohen, who then shot himself, accord and he fled toward the Long Branch Railroad, where he was struck by a train. He is in the say he may die.

Cohen and Miss Weimer were former sweethearts, but the g'rl's parents objected to Cohen and she had refused to marry him. He met her to-night at the Elizabethport railroad station. witnesses say, suddenly pulled a pistol from his pocket and fired a bullet into the girl's head, killing her instantly.

As she fell a score of commuters who had witessed the tragedy rushed toward Cohen, who shot himself in the head. He fell, but rose and stag-gered toward the tracks of the Long Branch Railroad. Dazed, he failed to see an eastbound train,

Miss Weimer had been employed in a Newark department store. Cohen had been a boarder at the Weimer home, but had not worked for several

CITY'S BIRTH RATE INCREASING.

Lowest in Its History.

Health Commissioner Darlington, in giving out the annual report of the vital statistics of greater New York yesterday, said: "During the last ten years our birth rate has been steadily increasing, whereas in many other large cities a gradual de crease is being shown. The death rate for the ear now closing is the lowest in the history of

The statistics showed 126,863 births during the year, a rate of 28.68 for each thousand inhabitants. The number of deaths during the year was 73.071, 16.52 for each thousand.

The number of marriages during the year was 47,499, a decrease of 3,598 from the previous year. The reasons ascribed for the decrease are the marriage license law and the business depression.

THE SEABOARD FLORIDA LIMITED through to Jacksonville, St. Augustine, Palm Beach, Miami, Knights Key, riandsomest and quickest Florida train, Resumes service Jan. 4th. Year Round Limited and Florida Past Mail now afford fine service to Florida, also Atlanta and Birming ham. Seaboard Air Line Ry., 1183 Bdway.—Advi.

STUART LUPTON SAFE.

News of American Vice-Consul-Messina in Darkness.

Malta Dec. 31.—Wireless dispatches received rom the British warships at Messina indicate that the King's presence there has aided some

The dispatches give a long list of British Messina, and he is safe

streats, horrible and disfigured. The weather s very cold, with frequent heavy rain and hai Food is hardly obtainable and there is no wat The British military attache has arrived at Messina from Rome and i, now proceeding to ntercept the Ophir and the Bremen, in passing

BIG GIFT TO COLLEGE.

Teachers College Gets Amsterdam Avenue Block Front.

Teachers College, it was announced by its lean, Dr. James E. Russell, yesterday, has reselved from the Morningside Realty Company he gift of its entire stock, representing the wnership of the block front in Amsterdam avecludes Whittier Hall, a dormitory for womer tudents of Teachers College and Barnard, and the Lowell and Emerson apartment houses.

The officers of the realty company are Spence Trask, president, and Dr. Russell, secretary. The other directors are Grace H. Dodge, Charles W Harkness and V. Everit Macy. holders are George Foster Peabody, Seth Low Joseph Milbank, D. O. Mills, Archer M. Huntington, James Speyer and the estate of D. Willis

NEW \$2,000,000 HOTEL.

Structure at 34th Street and Park Avenue To Be 19 Stories High.

The City Leasing Company, of which Joseph W. Welch is president, is going to erect on a plot at the southwest corner of 34th street and Park avenue a nineteen story hetel. The site is owned by Alfred Gwynne Vanderbilt. He had plans drawn about two years ago for an office building for the premises. The building occupying the corner parcel of the plot is the former

home of the Princeton Club. The proposed hotel is to be of fireproof construction, with a frontage of one hundred and ninety-eight and a half feet, and a depth of eighty feet. It will be of ornamental brick and stone with a façade ornamented with tall tiers of bays extending to within two stories of the These two stories will be finished with a cornice and peaked gables. The building is to cost \$2,000,000. Warren & Wetmore are the

PRESIDENT AT PRACTICE.

Does Good Shooting on Range in Preparation for Hunt. Washington, Dec. 31.-"After a little practice.

am coming along strong." President Roosevelt declared to-day after he hit the bull's-eve at fifty yards on the shooting range of Surgeon General Rixey's farm, nea- Cherrydale, Va., just across the Potomac River from Washington. The President, his son Kermit and General Rixey

spent almost the entire day in a series of "practice rounds," in preparation for the President's African hunting trip. The President and Kermit arrived at the country place at an early hour, and, with General Rixey, tramped through the snow for a quarter of a mile to a secluded nook in woods, where the improvised range is situated.

AUTO CLUB CALLS OFF GRAND PRIX. Paris, Dec. 31.-The Automobile Club of France has called off the Grand Prix race for 1909. nine entries for the contest were received.

PRE-EMINENTLY THE FLORIDA ROUTE. Atlantic Coast Line R. R. "N. Y. & 2:10 P. M. B'way, cor. 30th St. - Advt.

LIPARI ISLANDS UNDER SEA

Group Disappears with 28,000 Inhabitants, a Wireless Message from Messina Says.

AMERICAN FLEET MAY AID MESSINA

The President Takes Up The Tribune's Suggestion-Calabria and Sicily Being Depopulated-Thousands Starving-Pestilence Feared.

Rome, Dec. 31.-The "Vita" states that a wireless message from the Strait. of Messina reports that the Lipari Islands, a group of volcanic islands in the Mediterranean, near the coast of Sicily, have disappeared. The total population of the group numbers 28,000 and must have perished.

The Minister of Marine has rushed a torpedo boat to ascertain the facts, 1.4

All efforts in Italy are being directed to the work of rescuing the thousands of starving sons. Estimates of the dead run as high as three hundred thousand, but the Ministry of Marine still holds to one hundred and fifteen thousand.

Sicily and Calabria are being depopulated. A hundred thousand survivors of the disaster

Steps were taken at Washington toward is suing of orders to the American battleship feet to go to the scene of the disaster and give aid in every way possible. The United States supply ship Celtic sailed from the Brooklyn navy yard with \$165,000

worth of food, besides liberal supplies of clothing, for the Messina sufferers. The Red Cross in New York City received \$48,111 and the Mayor's fund \$16,150 for

FLEET MAY GO TO AID TRYING TO SAVE LIVING

Sending American Warships to the Italy's Great Task-Estimates of Scene of Disaster Contemplated.

that the great American battleship fleet will close its trip around the world with an act of parallel in history. Steps have already been taken to ascertain whether the ships of the fleet. with their 15,000 disciplined men and their extensive stores and medical supplies, cannot ren der important assistance to the stricken people of Messina, Reggio and other devastated Italian municipalities.

The first suggestion that the fleet could be utilized to mitigate suffering and perhaps save the lives of some of the stricken people was contained in an editorial in The Tribune of this Navy bring to the White House information regarding the exact location of the fleet and its miling distance, computed in hours, from the devastated locality. Communication was also had with the Italian embassy, where it was learned that the ambassador had returned to Washington and would call on the Secretary of State at

Before Baron des Planches had started for the the National Red Cross, that she had cabled, for that organization, \$56,000 to the American Embassy at Rome, to be handed to the Italian Red Cross for the immediate relief of the sufferers. A cable message was also sent to the Italian Red Cross asking if food and other supplies were

The Secretary of the Navy reported to the President that the fleet was due at Port Said on two severe shocks occurred at Messina last night. Sunday, that it would be necessary for them to oal there, and that orders sent by cable on Monday or Tuesday would be in ample time to direct their movements without loss of time. This information was immediately communicated to Secretary Root, and it was decided to they have been almost motionless. Ætna and ascertain the wishes of the Italian government before taking any definite steps. The President determined, however, to send to Congress a special message on Monday, requesting a generous appropriation for the relief of the earthquake sufferers, and if it is learned that the Italian government would welcome the assistance of the American fleet, the message may request authority not only to direct the fleet to render such assistance as possible, but also to ican travellers. It has been found impossible devote supplies of all kinds to the work of to obtain tidings of the hundreds of foreigners

Early in the forenoon the Italian Ambassador arrived at the State Department to thank, in the name of his government, the American people, through the Secretary of State, for the prompt financial assistance rendered through the Red Cross. Secretary Root intimated to the Ambassador the desire of the American government to render every assistance possible and the wish to send to the scene of the disaster the American flee! if it was deemed advisable by the Italian authorities, explaining that, in all probability, the vessels could not reach there before January 15.

Secretary Root indicated after the call of the Ambassador, that probably no effort would be made to reach a decision regarding the advisability of sending the American fleet to Messina earlier than Monday, as no time would be lost by waiting, while the Italian authorities would

Continued on third page.

GREAT BEAR SPRING WATER

the Dead Reach 300,000.

ple. It is enough to know that the catastrophe is overwhelming-figures would add nothing to international humanitarianism which has no the grief of the stricken nation, nor move to greater efforts those on whom the work of relief

and rescue has fallen. Every channel open to the government has een utilized to this end, and other nations have beer quick to come to its assistance, even before the for ald went up. Shiploads of fugin carried out of the stricken zone to Naples. Palermo, Catania and other ports. and, according to the Minister of Marine, thirtymorning, and the President had no sooner seen six rescue vessels are now in the Strait of Mesit than he requested that the Secretary of the sina, and five thousand soldiers are being landed

Most important of all now is the question of the living. Thousands of those who escaped the falling walls and the sweep of the tide are starying and without clothes or shelter. They can scarcely long survive their sufferings. The first thought has been to carry food and covering for State Department he received word from Miss | these helpless people, and it has now been da-Mabel Boardman, of the executive committee of cided by the government to send a fleet of emigrant steamers to transport them to other places.

The latest reports received at Rome say that there have been many intermittent shocks following the first, to which the greater part of the destruction is attributed. The British warship Minerva reported by wireless to Malta that

Professor Rioco, director of the observatory at Mount Ætna, states that his instruments have recorded forty-two distinct shocks after the first, but that during the last thirteen hours Stromboli are now quiet, and he is certain that the earthquake was not of volcanic, but geological origin, similar to that of 1785,

Lloyd C. Griscom, th American Ambassador, will leave here to-morrow for Messina and other places in the south on an Italian warship in search of information concerning missing Amersupposed to have been in the zone about whom inquiries have been made to the government and the various embassies.

The horror of the situation at Messina and Reggio grows with every fresh dispatch. One of the correspondents places the death roll throughout the entire territory as high as 300,-000, but this appears to be extreme. Others make their outside estimate 200,000, but the official estimate made by the Minister of Marine still holds to 115,000.

Relief expeditions which have been making their way to Reggio have encountered tremendous obstructions all along the route. They report eighteen villages, besides those already mentioned in Calabria, as having been completely rulned. This would indicate that the earthquake did-not confine its work of havoc to

"NEW YORK & FLORIDA SPECIAL" West 23d St. Penna. Ferry, 2:10 P. M. Through Pullmans to St. Augustine, Palm Beach, Miami and Knight's Key for Havana. Atlantic Coast Line, 1218 Broadway.—Advt.