

Baltimore in Ruins.

Entire downtown burnt out.

More than 100 residential blocks and all electrical installations destroyed.

Damages amount to more than 250 million dollars. Banks destroyed, insurance companies paralyzed. City under martial law. All militia regiments and federal servicemen on duty. Gov. Warfield decrees a 10 day public holiday. Federal, state, and local aid requested. Aid arrives from New York, Philadelphia. Fire tackled after 28 hours. Many injured and only one fatality. Debris blasted with dynamite.

The world has not seen a calamity like that which befell Baltimore on Sunday since the destruction of Carthage and Rome. The incineration of Chicago 30 years ago does not compare to Baltimore's fiery disaster, where wooden houses burned and damages amounted to almost \$50 million. Here, the proudest of business establishments were turned to rubble and ashes in less than 24 hours, and will require \$50 million alone to rebuild, while the loss of goods and merchandise will approach an amount of \$200 million.

The duty of the federal government would now be to offer assistance. The authorization of a \$50,000,000 loan (15 years at 3%) for purposes of lending would help the city immediately get back on its feet. This sum could at the very least rebuild the buildings of those businesses that were brought to the verge of ruin on account of the fire. Businesses could then use their insurance money to purchase new merchandise.

The human mind stands still at the sight of the sea of debris that stretches from Liberty St. in the west to Jones Falls in the east, from Lexington St. in the north down to Pratt St. west of Light St. and over to the Harbor East of Light St. in the south. In this district stood nearly all of the banks, import companies, commission houses, bureau offices, newspaper offices and wholesale businesses, buildings that appeared to be built for eternity. Not one morning paper could be published yesterday. The roaring sea of flames reached the newspaper bureaus before they could go to press. As the morning advanced, the horrific force had nearly completed its work of destruction, the water of the harbor halted its advance. It sprang onto "the Block" and also over the Jones Falls, however the firemen from New York were able to halt the flames. The cremated district encompass 155 acres of land.

Scene of the Fire

To give an idea of the scope of this dreadful tragedy, it is cited that at least 100 residential blocks were destroyed. The scene of the fire stretched from the corner of Lombard and Howard to the corner of Howard and Lexington. From there it went eastward up to the courthouse on St. Paul St. The fire's destructive work continued on the south side of Fayette St. eastward over to Gay St., then Baltimore St. and up to the bridge over the Jones Falls. The combined effort of the fire department succeeded in keeping the fire from crossing Jones Falls.

Everything is destroyed south of Baltimore St. down to the water. Traveling through the fire district is a heartbreaking scene. The mighty bank buildings lie partly in ruins, everything is totally burnt out with exception of the Safe Deposit Co. building on South St., which is below the completely ruined "Sun" Building, the first iron building in the world. The roof of the Bank building of the firm Alexander Brown and Son, as well as the "International Trust Co.", two single-story fireproof buildings, have both caved in. The latter contains silver and gold wares valued at many hundreds of thousands of dollars. All of the skyscrapers are still standing but completely burnt out. They are the buildings of the Continental Trust Co. on Baltimore and Calvert St., the Maryland Trust Co. on Calvert and German St., the Equitable-Building on Calvert St. and Fayette St., and the Calvert building bordered on all sides by Fayette and St. Paul St., Baltimore and Calvert St. is also standing, but the granite stones in the fundament and over the windows have crumbled away from the heat and the street is strewn with pulverized granite an inch deep.

An Inferno.

An inferno in the heart of the great metropolis of the south! A sea of flames paralyzing business life in the city. Thousands of workers pushed from their jobs, in what will hurt the state for many years: That is a rough description of the horrible disaster that devastated our city, a catastrophe that stands alone in annals of Baltimore. This fire demon reigned without mercy, without consideration, without pity, grasping more and more with greedy hands. Boundless, unbridled was its rage; dreadful was the path of devastation it built.

From Liberty St and Lombard St on, on where the colossal Hurst building fell first to its greed, the fire cleaved in every direction. One great building after the next was soon swallowed by a sea of fire, and in unbelievably short time, entire housing blocks were enveloped in flames. Shortly after, attempts were made to extinguish the flames through the use of dynamite, but to no avail - the fire spread further and faster. Hundreds of thousands of residents stood helpless before the flames.

Der Deutsche Correspondent.

For the first time in its many years of existence Der Deutsche Correspondent could not be published. At 11am staffers were instructed by police to forsake the comfortable building on the corner of Baltimore St. and Post Office Ave. The large adjacent Chamber of Commerce caught fire. The opposing hall, Momenty's restaurant, on the corner of Holiday and Baltimore St. had already collapsed. The owner Mr. Ed Raine, composing himself till the last moment, had to eventually return home, ill of this woeful sight. Business owner E. A. Heintz brought books to safety, taking them and the present staff to the courthouse through Holiday St., where the fire blazed on both sides. All of them witnessed the destruction of German America's most beloved home of the Deutsche Correspondent. The building was the last in the neighborhood to go, still standing around 4 o'clock yesterday morning. When it finally collapsed around 4:30, everybody left the scene.

The buildings of the "Sun", the "American", the "News" and the "Herald" were ruined well before. Immediately after the collapse of the "Correspondent", the "Deutsche Bank" began to burn.

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* This section of the paper is folded upon itself and not readable

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Around 4:30 yesterday morning a terrible crash could be heard in the area of Pratt st. and Jones Falls. In the moments following, pieces of iron, bolts, and pieces of iron plates flew in all directions. An explosion occurred, in the giant engine houses of the United Railway Co. and Electric Light and Power Co., and within 15 minutes the enormous structure was a wreck. The costly machinery in the building was similarly ruined. It was the biggest and most modern structure of its kind in the United States.

Gas Vein Saved.

Over the night and days prior the large gas pipes that supply the business quarter of Canton with gas were watched by a number of men, saving them from the flames.

Despite all efforts, fireman could not save the union dock where the "Old Bay Line" building is located. Similarly, a number of warehouses, which in this area are situated along the waterfront, were also destroyed.

The "Wilson X Lowery Distilling Co." was incinerated about 5 o'clock yesterday morning. The alcohol exploded with terrible force. Both of its buildings are located on the corner of Lombard and Frederick st.. As a result many of the old barracks in the neighborhood were demolished.