

Quakes Recorded Here By Seismograph. Gazette 5-12-38

A series of severe earthquakes yesterday lasting an hour and a half was reported by the Rev. Joseph A. Murray of St. John's Seminary here. He said the seismograph at the seminary indicated the quake's epicenter was 1,440 miles from the station here, probably west of Mexico City off the coast of Mexico. The first quake was registered at 8:34:13 a. m. and the second at 8:38:05.

Earthquake Recorded.—The seismograph at St. John's Seminary recorded an earthquake of approximately two hours duration at 11:20 a. m. yesterday, the Rev. Joseph A. Murray reported. The Rev. Father Murray said that the earthquake probably was below the surface and more than 5,000 miles from Little Rock. **Gazette 5-20-38**

Earth Tremor Causes Much Excitement Gazette 9-17-38

An earth tremor of deep intensity that lasted for about half a minute shook houses and other structures in all sections of Little Rock perceptibly shortly after 9:30 last night but apparently caused no damage.

The quake seemed to be centered east of Little Rock since numerous reports were received in Memphis and in eastern Arkansas towns and cities. Reports were received from Dardanelle and Fort Smith in western Arkansas.

The seismograph at St. John's seminary, the one instrument of its kind in Arkansas, has been disconnected since June 15 and no reading was available, the Rev. Joseph A. Murray, seismologist at the institution, reported.

Many Residents Disturbed.

The Gazette was swamped with calls from all sections of the city for several hours after the shock. Most of them were from the eastern and southern sections of the city. Those who were upstairs in two-story houses said that the sense of insecurity and movement was pronounced. Several reported that portions of the ceiling and walls at which they happened to be looking at the time of the shock moved perceptibly.

The sense of dizziness and lack of equilibrium which are commonly described as sensations occurring during earthquakes were uniformly described by those who reported the earthquake.

Dogs, cats and other pets sensed the shock and were disturbed over the unusual conditions, several persons reported.

Internes at St. Vincent's infirmary reported that the tremor shook bottles from a table in the hospital laboratory. Attaches at City hospital said internes and nurses on the top floors of the building felt the shock and hurried downstairs to discover the trouble. Persons in the basement felt nothing.

W. B. Smith, 1510 Battery street, reported that the quake caused a large crack down the center of stone steps in front of his house.

Utilities Report No Damage.

The quake caused considerable disturbance among patients at all hospitals. Nurses did double duty answering calls from patients who wanted to know what the commotion was about.

The Arkansas Power and Light Company and the Southwestern Bell Telephone Company reported they received many calls for information about the shock but no reports of damage. An engineer at the power and light company said the shock registered distinctly on instrument boards at the plant. Some persons who called in said they felt two separate shocks but the engineer said the instrument boards registered a single shock that lasted about 30 seconds.

Quake Felt Elsewhere.

Reports received at Pine Bluff said the shocks were sufficiently strong to create waves on usually calm lakes in the vicinity. Jonesboro reported a tremor at 9:33 p. m. which shook buildings in all sections of the city but caused no damage. Other reports were received from Batesville, Harrisburg and Newport. Residents of Hope in southeast Arkansas said they felt no shock in that area.

Church Shaken.

The congregation of the Greater Arch Street Baptist church, Negro, Eleventh and Arch streets, had visions of the millenium when the quake mysteriously rocked walls of the church during services. Members halted proceedings while a cursory inspection was made.

Felt on North Side.

The shock appeared to have been felt quite generally on the north side of the river, numerous residents of North

Little Rock, Rose City and Levy reporting that their homes and business houses responded to the shock for several seconds. In North Little Rock, the shock was felt at police headquarters, in several cafes, at theaters and throughout the residential section.

Patrolmen Gaty and Copeland responded to a prowler call in the 1500 block on Maple street which probably was the result of the earth shock rather than the effort of a burglar to force a window. Residents of two homes reported that prowlers were shaking the windows of their homes, but there was no evidence of burglary attempts.

The shock was felt definitely at the Franklin hotel, 118 1-2 Main street, where one person was awakened and reported that he thought someone was shoving his bed about the room. Flowers on a piano and a radio were set in motion and quivered several seconds.

Pipeline Safe.

Marion L. Crist, engineer for the Municipal Water Department said last night the 35-mile pipe line from Lake Winona from which Little Rock obtains its water supply, was not damaged. He said it would require a quake of great proportion to move the line which is heavily reinforced with steel.

Californian Speaks.

Mrs. A. M. Miller of California, in Little Rock on a visit, said the quake here reminded her of several severe ones which she has experienced in her native state. She said that while earth tremors in California were recorded rather frequently it had been several years since she felt one of such intensity as was experienced here last night.

Reports Due Today.

Seismographic records of the quake will not be available at Cape Girardeau, Mo., and the St. Louis University until sometime today.

Attaches of Fordham University in New York city said the disturbance would not be recorded on their instruments unless it was of severe intensity. The Loyola University seismograph at New Orleans, nearest instrument except those in Missouri, was undergoing repairs at the time of the disturbance and no record was made.

Theory of Quake.

The quake was attributed by the Rev. Father Murray, to a slight recurrence of conditions which caused the Madrid (Mo.) earthquake of 1811. The latter was the most severe ever recorded in the United States. It caused the town of Madrid to fall into the Mississippi

river and among other effects created the huge Reelfoot lake in Tennessee. The quake was believed to have been caused by a shifting of rock in the New Madrid fault, a geological formation.

The Rev. Father Murray said it was likely last night's quake centered in the New Madrid area, which he described as an area with the town of New Madrid, Mo., as its center, embracing sections of northeast Arkansas, southwest Kentucky, northwest Tennessee and southeast Missouri.

The seismograph at St. John's Seminary here records one or two tremors each year in the New Madrid area but they are not felt in Little Rock, the Rev. Father Murray said. He described last night's quake as a minor disturbance.

The priest said he returned from vacation a few days ago. The seismograph is not operated during the summer and under normal procedure would not be in operation until late next week, the Rev. Father Murray said. He expressed regret that last night's quake was not recorded.

The quake was the first of record to be generally perceptible in Little Rock, the Rev. Father Murray said.

Many Reports of Quake With No Damage at Memphis. Gazette 9-17-38

Memphis, Tenn., Sept. 16 (AP).—Reports of earth tremors in the Memphis territory swamped newspaper offices and radio stations here tonight. No damage was reported although many persons said mirrors and pictures shook on their hangings, and windows rattled, an engine set in concrete was reported to have been rocked loose from its foundation at West Memphis, Ark.

Quake Felt by Residents Of Okmulgee, Okla. Gazette 9-17-38

Okmulgee, Okla., Sept. 16 (AP).—Residents of Okmulgee reported an earthquake tremor was felt at 9:33 p. m. today. Several telephone operators said the tremor was strong enough to shake the switchboards at their office. Other persons in the community reported the phenomenon. No damage was reported.

Rather Severe Earthquake Felt At New Madrid, Mo. Gazette 4-14-39

New Madrid, Mo., April 15 (AP).—An earth tremor of rather severe intensity shook New Madrid and vicinity at 11:25 a. m. today. The tremor lasted about two minutes.

It was one of the most severe quakes in recent years. Buildings swayed noticeably but there was no damage or consequence. Bottles were knocked off of tavern shelves and some windows were reported cracked. New Madrid is the center of an area where earth tremors are common.

Earth Tremors Reported In Wide Areas Gazette 6-20-39

Noticeable earth tremors were felt at widely separated points throughout central and southern Arkansas yesterday afternoon, but no damage had been reported last night. Time of the shocks was placed in most reports at 3:45 p. m., though a Gazette reporter who was looking at a Western Union clock at the time of the earthquake said it was felt here at 3:48. Duration of the tremors was reported from one-half second to two seconds by most observers. The quake was the second earth tremor to be reported here in less than a year. Distinct earthquake shocks were felt in Little Rock last August.

At the Little Rock Weather Bureau, where a stack of books was dislodged by the earth movement, the tremor was reported as about two seconds in duration. Persons throughout the five upper floors of the Federal building, one of the most substantial of the city's larger buildings, felt the shocks distinctly and were confused by the unusual occurrence. Employees in the basement of the building said they did not feel the movement.

Many persons telephoned the Gazette to report they had felt the shocks and that windows and dishes had been rattled by the movement.

Arkadelphia reported two severe shocks and three tremors were reported at Warren. Other towns and communities which reported feeling the earth tremors included Hot Springs, Pine Bluff, Hope, El Dorado, Texarkana, Dermott, Malvern, Camden, Prescott, Benton, Fordyce and Sheidan.

County officials at Benton said that the clock in the courthouse tower struck three times as a result of the tremors.

The seismograph at St. John's Seminary has been disconnected for the summer.

Violent Shock Reported.

Mrs. E. W. Worden, 1624 West Twenty-sixth street, reported an electric sewing machine and a bird cage were turned over in her home. The shock was so violent Mrs. Worden became ill temporarily. She discovered a crack in the foundation of her home, but was not certain whether the quake caused it.

Quakes Felt In Alabama And California Gazette 6-25-39

Huntsville, Ala., June 24 (AP).—Terrifying residents over an area of more than 500 square miles, a series of slight earthquakes shook northeastern Alabama and Southern Tennessee without material damage today. The shocks were felt in Huntsville, Scottsboro, New Market and Jeff, Ala., and at Fayetteville, Tenn.

Residents of Monte Sano mountain, on Huntsville's outskirts, fled from their homes for fear they would collapse. The police station here was besieged with calls from persons who thought there had been a great explosion. R. W. Calen, superintendent of Monte Sano state park, said his house was shaken severely and "it sounded like a long roll of thunder."

Distinct shocks were reported at 4 a. m., 5:27 a. m. and 6:45 a. m. in the Huntsville area. One caller to police here said telephone poles on the streets were "shaking and trembling." It was the area's first earthquake in the memory of old residents.

Alabama Power Company substations at Huntsville, Scottsboro and New Market felt the shocks, but service was not interrupted.

Pictures on walls swung to and fro and dishes on shelves set up a clatter.

Four Eastern States Rocked By Quake Gazette 11-15-39

Philadelphia, Nov. 14 (AP).—An earthquake of considerable intensity, apparently centering in southern New Jersey, shook a four-state area tonight. Windows rattled, buildings swayed. Dishes tumbled from shelves. Pictures

fell from walls, but no serious damage was reported.

The Franklin Institute in Philadelphia said its seismograph showed the tremors began at 9:45 p. m. and lasted for approximately 10 seconds.

An institute spokesman said the quake was the most severe registered in this area in recent years. Reports from several seismographs will be necessary, he said, to locate the exact center of the disturbance.

The tremors were felt as far south of Bridgeton, N. J., as far west as Baltimore, and northward to Allentown, Pa., and Trenton, Riverton and Palmyra, N. J. Wilmington, Del., also reported a severe shaking.

Explosion Feared.

A deep rumbling that resembled distant thunder accompanied the rocking and rattling of buildings. Residents of southern New Jersey and Delaware, where many powder plants are located, at first feared there had been an explosion.

Police Watch For Fires.

Police in Philadelphia were reported to be on the lookout for fires that might start from swinging lamps and overturned stoves.

A Philadelphian, dozing on a sofa at the time, declared:

"It felt just like two fellows picked up the davenport and shook it back and forth like a baby's cradle."

Sergt. William R. Hall, of the Salem (N. J.) police said he heard "a rumbling noise" that "didn't seem to come from any particular direction."

A Paulsboro, N. J., electric company employe, said ink splashed from a well on his desk.

The Fordham University seismograph in New York registered a slight earthquake with its center about 100 miles from New York.