

coldest water we found was 31°, on the tail of the Bank, in April, about 100 miles from the nearest ice. . . .

In a light, low fog an observer can see a berg from aloft sooner than from deck, but in a dense fog we found that the lookout was best kept from the spar deck, as the first sight of the berg was the lapping of the water on its base.

Speaking about lookouts, it occurs to me that on a very large ship, with decks some 70 feet above water, bridge some

20 feet higher, and lookout posted higher up still, the lookout might well be higher than the top of a small berg; and hence on a dark night he would have an unobstructed view of the horizon over a berg half a mile or a mile away. In that case he might easily miss seeing the obstruction until too late to avoid it.

As a rule, we found little or no change in temperature of the air near a berg.

Science News Letter, March 18, 1933

SEISMOLOGY

Earthquake Was Not Noticed By Einstein

PROF. Albert Einstein walked through the earthquake and did not notice it. He had just emerged from a California Institute of Technology building after attending his last seminar with Pasadena scientists before leaving for New York. Walking with Dr. Beno Gutenberg, the eminent authority on seismology, both he and Dr. Gutenberg were so absorbed that they said later they had not noticed the earthquake. This was ironical because Dr. Gutenberg had never before had an opportunity to experience an earthquake.

Prof. Einstein had a few hours previously announced that he would not return to Germany because he prefers to live where freedom prevails. He will spend next summer in Oxford and return to his new position at Princeton next fall.

Buildings of the California Institute of Technology at Pasadena creaked and swayed greatly in the earthquake but no damage was done to these structures especially designed to withstand earthquakes.

Science News Letter, March 18, 1933

A piece of silk goods which lay for ten years in the sunken steamship Egypt was recently examined and reported to have "no injuries as to resistance, feel, or luster, and only a slight loss of color in some places."

SEISMOLOGY

Quake Centers on Sea Bottom Where Mountains are Growing

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tially destroyed some weakly constructed buildings. But the great earthquakes of Los Angeles recorded in history occurred in 1769, 1852 and 1855.

Four violent shocks, on July 28, 1769, with strong aftershocks on five days following, are listed in the records of the California missions. This earthquake was probably strongest along San Pedro Bay near the present harbor of Los Angeles. This is the location of the present earthquake center.

October and November, 1852, brought many earth shocks to the southern California of gold rush days. October 26 saw eleven severe shocks at Los Angeles. On July 10, 1855, a quite severe earthquake did considerable damage in Los Angeles.

The ocean region off the San Pedro-Long Beach coast near Los Angeles lying between the coast and Catalina Island is known as San Pedro Channel. Geologists describe it as the San Pedro submarine fault zone and they know that this is an area where the mountains are growing. It is probable that the recent earthquake was caused by a crustal adjustment in this area under the sea.

Although aftershocks from the earthquake will be felt for months, the disturbance was not a general one and probably did not relieve the strain in the earth's crust in other parts of Southern California. This is the opinion of Prof. Bailey Willis, eminent authority on geology and seismology who is professor emeritus at Stanford University.

There is, therefore, continued danger of severe earthquakes in Southern California. When these will come, whether tomorrow or a decade or more from now, neither Prof. Willis nor

other geologists can attempt to predict.

"The Long Beach earthquake appears to be a shock of moderate intensity on one of the several faults of the San Pedro fault zone," Prof. Willis said in response to a Science Service inquiry. "This fault zone was recognized by H. O. Wood, who described it in the Bulletin of the Seismological Society, 1916, in his account of the 1812 quake.

"Among the effects of movements on that zone we may recognize the elevation of the San Pedro point which is terraced by marine benches up to more than 1000 feet above sea and demonstrates activities extending back more than a million years. The zone has the earthquake habit and may be expected to behave accordingly from time to time as in the past.

"Aftershocks are likely to continue for several months and some of them may be strong. Measures of safety should be rigidly enforced. Although locally disastrous this Long Beach shock is not a general one and probably does not relieve the strain in the San Jacinto or San Andreas faults.

"The disaster emphasizes the need of earthquake resistant buildings under a reasonable building code recognizing earthquake hazards."

The San Andreas fault is the long cleavage in the earth's crust which runs from north of San Francisco along the coast to northwest of the Los Angeles region inland. Along this fault the great 1906 San Francisco earthquake occurred. The San Jacinto fault is to a certain extent an extension of the San Andreas fault southward of it.

Science News Letter, March 18, 1933

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The Science Service radio address next week will be on the subject

APPLIED GEOGRAPHY

by

Dr. Isaiah Bowman
Director of the American Geographical Society

FRIDAY, MARCH 24

at 12:45 P. M. Eastern Standard Time

Over Stations of
The Columbia Broadcasting System

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