

Italy: Revealing new evidence of Roman life and culture, excavations are in progress at Pompeii.

It was nearly 1,900 years ago that an eruption of Mt. Vesuvius brought disaster to this ancient city - which laid buried under ash and lava for many centuries.

Recent excavations have brought fresh discoveries - thanks, ~~chiefly~~ ^{chiefly}, to Professor Majuri - who has supervised workings on the site.

Grim evidence of the terrifying happenings on that day so long ago came with this latest discovery. A man, entombed in lava, his head half-hidden between clenched fists, as if to shut out vision of the molten ^{of death} tide/about to engulf him.

From this scene of ancient disaster - we go to Northern Italy - where the storm-driven Adriatic breached a dyke at the mouth of the river Po, causing widespread flooding.

And once again, began the heartbreaking task of ~~rescuing~~ ^{salvaging} precious possessions from ruined homes.

But due to the timely work of army volunteers and improved security measures, the serious loss of life and damage of the great floods of 1951 have been happily averted.

Disaster, too, in the New World; ~~fire~~ firefighting floats rushed to Brooklyn, when a ten-million-dollar-blaze enveloped New York's waterfront. Tons of inflammable cargo exploded - shattering windows for five miles around.

Braving the roaring inferno, gallant tug-boat men ~~rescued~~ ^{Towed} freighters to safety, as the blaze engulfed three of the city's largest piers.

Three hundred firemen fought for hours to quell the billowing flames... Twelve lives were lost - with at least two hundred injured - in New York's worst waterfront fire for twenty years.