

2-12-1917

WHEN THE EARTH ROCKED.

EARTHQUAKE AT MONTANA, U.S.A.

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(Commentary by Graham MacNamee).

A severe earthquake shock, one of more than three hundred lesser tremors over a period of ten days has turned the thriving Montana capital into a scene of desolation and ruin. Slight shocks were felt throughout Montana for several days when suddenly, at night, a terrific temblor shook the city, toppling walls and wrecked buildings. Two persons were killed and many injured by falling debris. A new half-million dollar high school was badly damaged, as well as many other important buildings in the business district. The residential sections were not spared, either.. the frightened citizens having to rush to safety in the streets, with bricks and other debris falling about their ears. Thousands have deserted the city, many being cared for in army tents at Fort Harrison, nearby. The homeless are being fed too, by the army and relief agencies. The earthquake damage is estimated at more than two million dollars, and to cap the climax, cold weather and a heavy snowfall are adding to the misery of the stricken quake victims.