



HALIFAX DEATH LIST NOW 5,000; SNOW IMPEDES RESCUE WORK

SAILORS FROM U. S. VESSEL PATROL CITY

Estimate of Deaths Made by United States Naval Commander in Stricken City Is Regarded as Fairly Accurate Although Not Official; Business at Standstill; Educational Institutions Closed Until After Holidays

FIERCE FIRES RAGE IN MANY SECTIONS THOUSANDS ARE HOMELESS AND HUNGRY

Heavy Blanket of Snow Interferes With Rescue Work, but Proves Great Help in Checking Flames; Third Red Cross Relief Train Leaves New York; Morgues Improvised From Schools, Churches and Homes

Washington, Dec. 7.—Five thousand are believed to have been killed in the explosion in Halifax harbor and the fire which swept North Halifax and Dartmouth, N. S., according to advices from a naval commander reaching the Navy Department early to-day.

The report which came from a naval commander who witnessed the explosion from a point 52 miles off Halifax and later proceeded to the harbor to render aid said that all of North Halifax was destroyed, three ships sunk and many others damaged.

The report as given out by the Navy Department is as follows: "The following report was received from a naval commander at Halifax:

"While fifty-two miles at sea the explosion of a munitions ship was seen and heard. Upon arrival assistance was offered to the authorities and the following learned concerning the circumstances leading to the explosion:

"A Belgian relief ship collided with a French munitions vessel loaded with three thousand tons of T. N. T. and a large quantity of benzene. Due to the collision the benzene caught on fire and as soon

as the fire started the crew abandoned the ship, reaching shore before the explosion took place. "Practically all of North Halifax was destroyed and all of the windows and doors in Halifax and Dartmouth were demolished.

"It is believed there are 5,000 dead but these figures cannot be confirmed. The explosion sunk three ships and badly damaged many others. The ruins of the buildings are now burning fiercely in North Halifax, the dispatch concludes.

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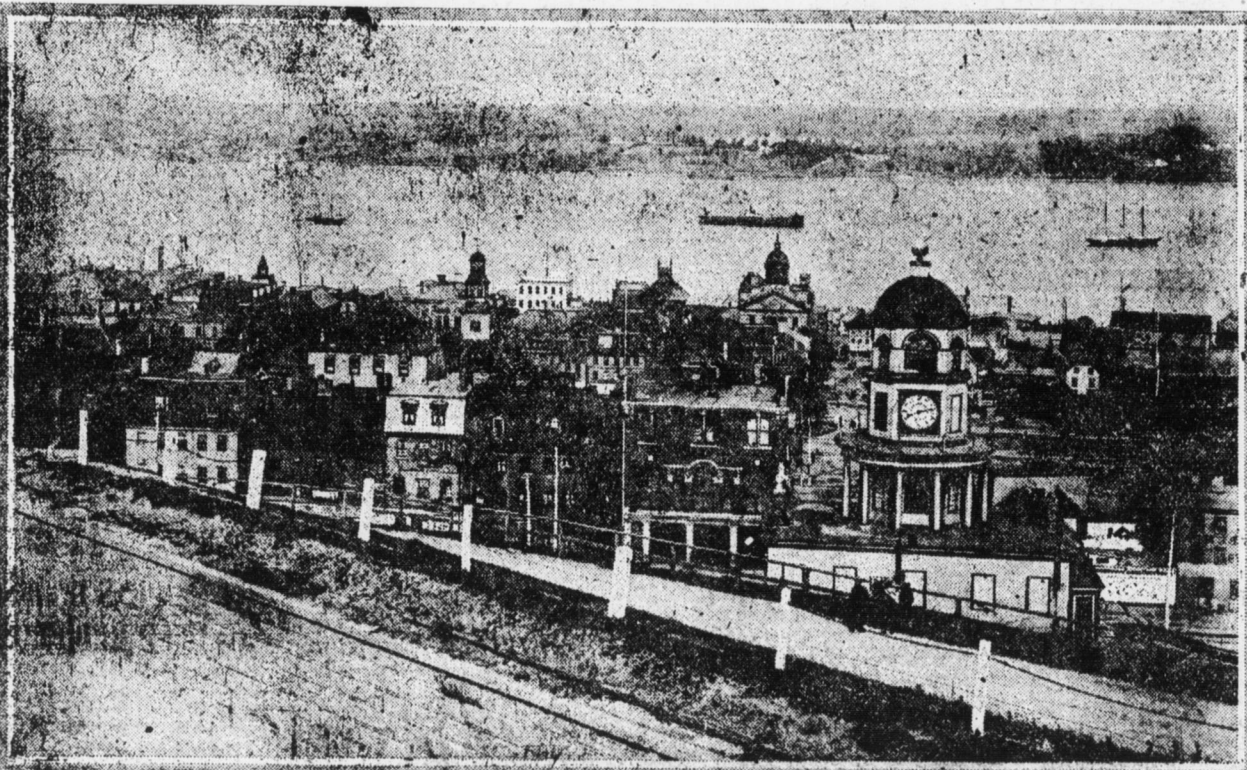
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HALIFAX HARBOR BLOWN TO BITS BY TERRIFIC EXPLOSION



An explosion of hundreds of tons of T. N. T., one of the most powerful explosives used in the war, has killed thousands and injured thousands more in Halifax, Nova Scotia. The entire harbor is reported to have been destroyed with the great seaport city in ruins. The loss runs up into the millions. The accident ranks as one of the most terrible the world has ever seen.

BREAD FORMULA FIXED BY FOOD ADMINISTRATION

Don. McCormick Announces Receipt For Guidance of Harrisburg Bakers

NO PRICE IS FIXED AS YET Sugar, Milk and Shortening Are Cut Down in Quantity

Reel Gathers Data on Bread Prices in City

Harry D. Reel, city inspector of weights and measures, said to-day he has completed a thorough investigation of the local bread situation and has compiled figures on the prices and weights of loaves from the various bakeries.

14 Under Close Guard to Prevent Further Escapes From Smallpox House

City health authorities to-day had not located Susie Jones, 1121 North Seventh street, who is suffering from smallpox and is now at large somewhere in the city or vicinity.

Philadelphia Blaze Calls Out City's Entire Fire-Fighting Force

Philadelphia, Dec. 7.—Nearly all of the city's fire-fighting equipment is summoned to a blaze which swept a five-story building of the oil and chemical plant of Thomas Potter and Sons, Inc. here to-day.

BRITISH RETIRE IN CAMBRAI REGION TO STRENGTHEN LINES

Evacuation of Several Villages West of Cambrai by General Byng Means Shortening of Lines and Stronger Defenses

German wedges driven into the salient before Cambrai have compelled the British to evacuate several points and they have given up to the Germans several villages west of Cambrai as well as the Bourlon wood. The retreat was carried out so well that the Germans continued to shell the emptied positions for several hours after the British had left them.

A HEART AND A DOLLAR WILL AID THE RED CROSS

Ask That Liberty Bond Coupons Be Used as Membership Fees

"Will you have a Red Cross membership in your home this Christmas?" This paraphrase of a well-known advertising slogan is going to be heard rather generally in Harrisburg and Dauphin county a week from Monday, when the Christmas drive for 38,000 additional Red Cross memberships opens.

Council Meets to Plan For Garbage Disposal

Members of City Council, the Health Department and commissioners-elect held an informal conference this afternoon to discuss the garbage disposal question. It is probable that a definite recommendation will be made at the regular session of Council next to-day.

GERMANS THROW A MIGHTY FORCE AT PIAVE LINE

Big Operation in Italy Is Repetition of Former Turning Movement

NEW POSITION STRONG Russian Prisoners Released by Austria Return Home to Spread Peace Talk

DRAFT BOARDS FEAR RETURN OF AUSTRIANS

Local draft boards to-day are worried less the declarations of war against Austria will mean the sending home of scores of Austrians and Hungarians who had been drafted into the Army from the Steeltown, Elizabethville and Paxtang boards.

Red Cross Gains \$440.40 From Benefit Performance at the Majestic Theater

A well filled house greeted the players in the Red Cross benefit performance, held in the Majestic theater this morning. After the overture, "Hall, Glorious America," C. Floyd Hopkins, manager of the theater, introduced Mayor Keister to the audience.

ONLY 6 DAYS left for men between the ages of 21 and 31 years to enlist in the war against the Hun.

Simon W. Wentz and Alice B. Shank, Newville; Clara M. Stengel, Oberlin, and Clara S. Reichey, Harrisburg.

CURTAIN CITY'S SOCIAL SEASON BECAUSE OF WAR WAR RESOLUTION PASSES IN SENATE HOUSE TO FOLLOW

Fair Dancing Partners Wait For Return of Khaki-Clad Fighting Men Prompt Declaration Against Austria-Hungary Follows President's Message

ALL BIG EVENTS ARE OFF ACTION IS UNANIMOUS

Society Leaders Take to Knitting and Small Parties Following House Action Final Draft of Resolution Will Be Prepared

There will be no sound of revelry in Harrisburg this winter. Kaiser Wilhelm has put the muffler on social gaiety more tightly than it has ever been clamped since the days of the Civil War. As for dancing, Mrs. Marlin Olmsted well expressed the situation to-day when asked if the charity ball would be held: "Nobody's dancing except 'over there.' A ball is a ball and you have to have dancing. We must have money for the Associated ARI Society but we will probably give a theatrical entertainment for no one cares to dance now. Times are too critical."

Soldiers Invited to Attend Big Recruiting Rally

Charles C. Stroh, chairman of the committee on speakers of the Dauphin County Committee of Public Safety, issues a special invitation to the soldiers who are home on furloughs, to Saturday evening when Lieutenant Hector McQuarrie, of the Royal Artillery, will make the principal address. The latter will tell of his experiences in the trenches, and where he was wounded, and it is thought the talk will be of special interest to the boys who are going abroad. Mr. Stroh also asks that the soldiers now on duty at Middletown, attend the meeting.

Yankee Birdmen Wounded During Battle With Hun Planes in France

Washington, Dec. 7.—The American Army airmen fighting German airplanes on the western front have suffered their first casualties. Two men, a corporal and a private, were today reported wounded.

SINGLE AIRPLANE CAUSES MOST DAMAGE

London, Dec. 7.—Most of the damage done in London yesterday morning in the German air raid appears to have been the work of a single airplane which hovered over the city and dropped five explosives and two incendiary bombs.

FRENCH DRIVE OFF ATTACKERS

Paris, Nov. 7.—Two attempts were made by the Germans to attack the French lines east of the Meuse in the Verdun region last night, after a heavy bombardment. The attacking forces, the war office announced to-day, were driven off by the French fire.

4,000 ITALIANS TAKEN—CLAIMS BERLIN

Berlin, Dec. 7.—Four thousand more Italians have been captured in the new Austro-German offensive on the northern front, bringing up the total to 15,000, according to to-day's official communication.

RELIEF TRAIN HELD BY WRECK

Waterville, Maine, Dec. 7.—The relief train sent to Halifax by Governor McCall and the State Public Safety Committee, of Massachusetts, was delayed more than an hour early to-day by a freight wreck on the Maine Central Railroad at Burnham Junction, thirteen miles from here. Five freight cars had been derailed just ahead of the train and the tracks were piled high with wreckage.

CONTINUE ACTION ON ASIAGO

Rome, Dec. 7.—On the Asiago plateau the battle is continuing without interruption, says to-day official report.

MARRIAGE LICENSES

Simon W. Wentz and Alice B. Shank, Newville; Clara M. Stengel, Oberlin, and Clara S. Reichey, Harrisburg.

THE WEATHER

For Harrisburg and vicinity: Fair and continued cold to-night, with lowest temperature about 23 degrees; Saturday increasing cloudiness, probably snow. For Eastern Pennsylvania: Fair and continued cold to-night; Saturday, increasing cloudiness, probably snow in north and west portions; moderate northwest to north winds.