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HALIFAX HARBOR BLOWN TO BITS BY TERRIFIC EXPLOSION

TELEGRAPH



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HOME EDITION

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 Darthmouth, N. S., according to advices from a naval commander reaching the Navy Department early to-day. The Navy dispatch said these figures had not been verified, however

The report which came from a naval commander who wit-nessed 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 ruins of buildings are now burning fiercely in North Halifax, the dispatch concludes.

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.

"A Belgian relief ship collided to the ship, reaching shore before the explosion took place. "Tractically all of North Halifax was destroyed and all of North Halifax was destroyed and all of North Halifax was destroyed and all of North Halifax and Dartmouth were demolished.

"It is believed there are 5,000 dead but these figures cannot be ships and badly damaged many otherwise." The ruins of the building are now burning fiercely in North Halifax.

From Ship Explosion

St. John, N. B., Dec. 7.—Eye wit-

the horrors through which they

passed. In the party were fourteen young women students from Mt. St.

Esmond P. Barry, St. John Postal

"It was terrible," he said, "people

clerk, was at Richmond during the

worst of the catastrophe.

Stunned by Disaster, Eye Witnesses Tell Halifax Bends Energies of Horrors Resulting to Care For Wounded

Halifax, N. S., Dec. 7.—Stunned nesses of the Halifax explosion he magnitude of the disaster reaching here to which has overwhelmed the "garrison city by the sea," the people of Halifax to-day bent all their energies to relieving the injured, feed-ing the hungry, sheltering the homeless and gathering their dead.

A heavy snow storm set in early to-day, and while this in a measure impeded the work of relief and rescue, it served to aid the firemen in fighting the flames which still burned iercely in many places among the

Hercely in many places among the ruins in the devastated district.
Reports from the improvised morgues and from hospitals, churches, schools and private residences seemed to bear out last night's estimate that at least 2,000 lives were lost when the Belgian relief steamship Imo collided with the French munitions steamer Monte Blanc, causing the detonation of 4,000 tons of trinitrotoluol, one of the

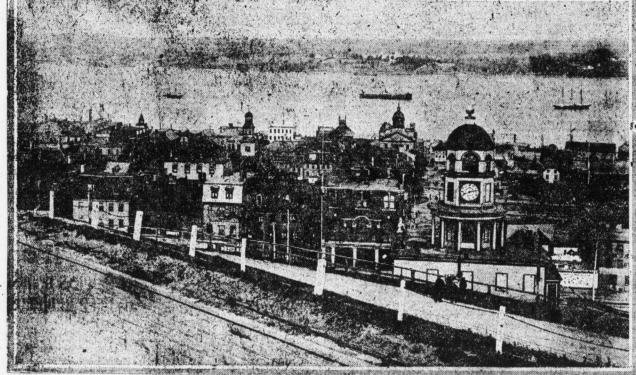
[Continued on Page 26.]

THE WEATHER

For Harrisburg and vicinity: Fair and continued cold to-night, with lowest temperature about 25 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.

Temperature: '8 a. m., 28. Sun: Rises,(7:17 a. m.; sets, 4:38

Yesterday's Weather st temperature, 38. st temperature, 32. temperature, 35. al temperature, 35.



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 eights and measures, said to-day he has completed a thorough in vestigation of the local bread situation and has compiled figure

shot off, eyes put out, faces slashed with flying glass, limbs torn and distorted. On one occasion while we will food administration officials, or more underneath a burning mass crying for aid. We could not get within thirty feet of the child and had to watch while it burned to death. Men and women and childeren were lying in the streets and hundreds must be burled beneath the wreckage."

J. C. Gillespie, a train conductor said that at Richmond fully fifty per cent, of the buildings collapsed, Babies were lying in the streets and pacific telegraph operator and all his family were killed.

Returning from Philadelphia this morning after an interview thereof which shall be not head of the distorted. On one occasion while we with flying glass, limbs torn and distorted. On one occasion while we with food administration officials, the charge of more underneath a burning mass or ring for aid. We could not get within thirty feet of the child and had to watch while it burned to death. Men and women and childere within thirty feet of the child and had to watch while it burned to the death. Men and women and childere within thirty feet of the child and had to watch while it burned to the wreckage."

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BREAD FORMULA BRITISH RETIRE IN **CAMBRAI REGION TO** STRENGTHEN LINES

Evacuation of Several Villages West of Cambrai by Gen- Big Operation in Italy Is Reperal 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 that the Germans continued to shell the empited positions for several bours after the British line had shortened and was made more capable of strong defense as a result of the retrement. It is indicated from British head-quarters in France that General Byng.

Could have maintained himself on the cost in casualties would have been greater than the strategic value of the positions. Berlin, in its latest report, claims the occupation of Marcoing, about four miles southwest of Cambrai. Minor German attacks south of Bourlon wood and near La Vacqueric have been repulsed by the British.

Violent fighting continues in the northern Italian front between Asia [Continued on Page 25.]

DRAFT BOARDS

FEAR RETURN

Would Have to Be Called

Members of City Council, the Health

A HEART AND A **DOLLAR WILL AID** THE RED CROSS

Ask That Liberty Bond Cou- Would Mean That More Men pons Be Used as Mem-

to Prevent Further Escapes

Relief Train Sent
by Massachusetts
Delayed by Wreck

Waterville, Maine, Dec. 7.—The
Fire-Fighting Force

By Associated Press
Waterville, Maine, Dec. 7.—The
relief train sent to Halifax by Governor McCall and the State Public
Safety Committee of Massachusetts,
was delayed for more than an hour
and to a blaze which swept a five
dearly to-day by a freight wreck on
the Maine Central Rallroad 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
wheckage. Telegraph poles also had
been knocked down, cutting off
communication between this city and
Bangor.

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

By Associated Press
Philadelphia, Dec. 7.—The
Five freight core was summoned to a blaze which swept a five
story building of the oil cloth and
story building of the oil cloth an

GERMANS THROW A MIGHTY FORCE AT PIAVE LINE

etition of Former Turning Movement

Italian Headquarters in Northern sociated Press).—The which the enemy is attempting in the north is virtually a repetition of the turning movement he executed six and in the great offensive

weeks ago in the great offensive above Gorizia.

The Austro-German attack on Meletta not only affects the lines in that region but if the enemy could pierce through and drive lifs way southward on the plains it might place him on the left llank of the Plave lines, much as the Duke of Aosta has his third army at Gorizia with the enemy on his left llank. The line east of Asiago probably is stronger to-day than be-

[Continued on Page 26.]

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

A well filled house greated the helayers in the Red Cross benefit performance, held in the Majestic theater this morning. After the diagrams who had been drafted into the Army from the Steelton, Elizabethville and Paxtang boards. If the Austrians, all of whom waived exemption claims, are to be classed as enemy aliens and sent back home, it will mean that the three Dauphin county draft boards will have to call several hundred more men for examination to fill the quotas.

Steelton is said to have forty-five [Continued on Page 26.]

Council Meets to Plan

A well filled house greater the delayers in the Red Cross benefit performance, held in the Majestic theater, this morning. After the overture, "Hall, Glorious América," C. Floyd Hopkins, manager of the theater, introduced Mayor Keister to the audience. In a short address, the Mayor congratulated the people of Harrisburg on their support of the Red Cross "and other war or ganizations." "The victory, will be won by the nation that stays in the war the longest," he said. Mrs. Roy J. Cox, a local soloist, sang "The Star Spangled Banner," with much feeling. The regular program of vaudeville acts followed.

Every service contributed by the

Every service contributed by the actors and actresses, the stage employes, the boxoffice and theater employes and managers, was donated to the Red Cross Society, and the the tree cross society, and the theater was given by the owners, wilmer and Vincent.

Total receipts of the benefit performance will be given to the Red Cross Society. The gross receipts are \$440.40. Of this amount, the

ONLY 6 DAYS

left for men between the ages of 21 and 31 years to enlist in the yar against the Hun. After tha time all registered men must take their chances in being placed in whatever branch of the service the government decides.

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

Fair Dancing Partners Wail Prompt Declaration Agains For Return of Khaki-Clad Fighting Men

ALL BIG EVENTS ARE OFF

Society Leaders Take to Knit-Following House Action Fina ting and Small Parties

There will be no sound of revelry in Harrisburg this winter. Kaiser Wilhem has put the muffler on social gaiety more tightly than it has ever been clamped since the days of the Civil War. As for dancins, 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 AM Society but we will probably give a theatrical entertainment for no one cares to dance now. Times are too critical."

Take to Knitting

With one accord all elements of society in Harrisburg have plainly concluded to sacrifice all the sual delights of a winter season. The impulse was spontaneous and the fair women who in other years took such pleasure in giving dinners and dances

[Continued on Page 13.]

[Continued on Page 13.]

Soldiers Invited to Attend Big Recruiting Rally

Charles C. Stroh, chairman of trecommittee on speakers of the Dauphin County Committee of Public Safety, issues a special invitation to the soldiers who are home on furloughs, to attend the meeting at the Courthouse, Saturday evening, when Lieutenant Hector McQuairrie, 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.

Austria-Hungary Follows President's Message

ACTION IS UNANIMOUS

Draft of Resolution Will

Be Prepared

Yankee Birdmen Wounded During Battle With Hun Planes in France

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 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. Telegraph poles also had been knocked down, cutting off communication between this city and Bangor.

CONTINUE ACTION ON ASIAGO

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

MONTE SISEMOL TAKEN

Berlin, Dec. 7.-Monte Sisemol was captured by storm, the official statement says.
BRITISH PLANES BOMB GERMANS

London, Dec. 7.-British naval airplanes on Wednesday and Thursday continued their bombing raids on German military works in Belgium, the British Admiralty announced to-day.

INDIANS BURN STOREHOUSE

Nogales, Ariz., Dec. 7.-Yaqui Indians yesterday attacked Esperanza, seventy miles south of Guaymas, Sonora, according to a message received here to-day and burned the office and store house of the Richardson Construction Company, an American firm. Nothing has been heard from about thirty Americans living in the

MAXIMALISTS OCCUPY MARIE PALACE

London, Dec. 7.-An armed Maximalist force has occupied the Marie palace, according to a Reuter dispatch from Petrograd, and has expelled the all-Russian commission in charge of the elections for the constituent

MARRIAGE LICENSES

Simon W. Wentz and Alice B. Shank, Newville; Clai M. Stengle, Oberlin, and Clara S. Reichley, Harrisburg.