

HALIFAX CITY

HALF IN RUINS!

Scenes Indescribable!

Thousands Homeless!

(FROM YESTERDAY'S LATE EDITION.)
FOR ACTING PREMIER.

HALIFAX, December 7.

In answer to your enquiry, the Vice-President and General Manager of the Commercial Cable Company send the following and quote only meagre reports of the Halifax disaster received. The newspapers say that thousands of tons of munitions on the French steamship "Mont Blanc" exploded in the harbor at 9 a.m. yesterday as a result of a collision with the Belgian relief ship "Imo." A conservative estimate is, eight hundred killed, thousands injured, millions of dollars of property destroyed and damaged in the northern part of Halifax, known as Richmond. Many fires. The situation is reported under control. The collision occurred in the Narrows leading from the harbor into Bedford Basin. The greatest loss of life is in the Richmond district. There is much suffering among the homeless. The temperature is below freezing. The telegraph and telephone wires were all down for hours. Emergency communication is now restored. Supplies are being rushed from the neighboring cities to relieve the situation. There are no details of specific losses. The cable ship Mackay-Bennett is undamaged but one of her crew was injured. Have not heard of any loss of other vessels.

A private message received in the city this afternoon states that the scenes in Halifax are indescribable and that half of the city is in ruins. We trust that this statement is exaggerated.

(Sgd.) H. D. WINDELER, Supt.

Wedding Bells.

A pretty wedding took place at St. Francis' Church, Torrington, on Nov. 26, when Miss Caroline Linter, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. Linter, of Brightwood avenue, was married to Edmund Joseph Breen, of St. John's, Newfoundland, now of Montpelier, Vermont. John Breen, brother of the groom, acted as best man and Miss Josephine Hayes was bridesmaid. The ceremony was performed by Rev. William Gildea. The wedding march was played by Miss Julia Carroll. The bride wore a gray velvet traveling suit with a picture hat to match and carried a bouquet of bridal roses. The bridesmaid wore a gray suit with a black hat and carried a bouquet of chrysanthemums. The bride's gift to the bridesmaid was an emerald ring and the groom's gift to the best man was a pair of diamond cuff links. After the ceremony a wedding breakfast was served at the home of the bride's parents on Brightwood avenue. Guests were present from Quincy, Boston, Bristol, Southington, Waterville, New Britain, Terryville and New York. The bride is one of Torrington's most popular young ladies and was formerly employed at the Excelsior Needle Company. She is a member of St. Francis Ladies T. A. & B. Society. She was the recipient of many beautiful and costly presents, including cut glass, silverware and gold. After the wedding breakfast Mr. and Mrs. Breen left on their honeymoon to be spent in New York, Philadelphia and Washington, D.C. They will be at home to their friends after December 15th at Montpelier, Vermont.

From Cape Race.

CAPE RACE, To-day. Wind W. S. W. blowing a gale, weather showery with a terrific sea raging; no vessels in sight. Bar. 29.15; ther. 30.

Lt. Col. Franklin Invested With D.S.O.

The Minister of Militia has received the following cable from London: "Lt. Col. Franklin was invested with the Distinguished Service Order, on Dec. 5, by His Majesty the King at Buckingham Palace."

Bay de Verde Notes.

The schooners "Ellen," Churchill master, and "Bruce," Hogan master, left here yesterday for St. John's with cargoes of dry fish purchased for the Gorton Pw Co. This Company is still buying fish and paying a remunerative price. The prolonged spurt of wet weather has retarded fish curing and there are about 4,000 qtls. here yet to be disposed of. The wrecked vessel "Mary Duff" is rapidly going to pieces. None of her coal cargo has been saved. The wreck was sold at public auction by Mr. Aron Stone and realized three hundred and thirty dollars.

The people here anticipate a general election in the spring and are longing for Sir Robert Bond to lead a party. From one end of the district to the other a great change of public opinion has taken place and the people are tired of picnic parties and political fakirs and they want a man of integrity and one who cannot be purchased. Sir Robert Bond, your country is calling you to once more take the helm of the ship of state. Will you respond?

CORRESPONDENT.
Bay-de-Verde, Dec. 4th, 1917.

WEED CHAINS.—Keep your car from skidding by using the famous Weed Chains. All sizes in stock. BOWRING BROTHERS, LTD., Hardware Department.—oct18,eod,tf

The Boots of Our Childhood.

How dear to our hearts are the boots of our childhood. The old time prunellas our mothers did use; How pleasant the hours that we went through the wildwood, Sealing birds' nests, wearing "copper toe" shoes. We may talk of the days of our fathers and mothers, And the old oaken bucket that hung by the well; But give me the days of our sisters and brothers, With the fine Hi-press rubbers that Bowring does sell.

To-day our grand-fathers may tell their grand-daughters Of the boots that when courting their mothers they wore; They may talk how they like of those foxy three quarters Or the old Hamburg bluchers that came here of yore. Our mothers may tell of those darling prunellas How when "mashin" our daddies they cut a great swell; But I wish to inform all the girls and their "fellas" There's none like the Hi-press that Bowring does sell.

For those who have worn them they say they're heart breakers, Sure they all fall in love with the fine Hi-press boots; Goodrich, of Akron, Ohio, are the makers, And Bowrings have got them for men and for youths. All over the island their name is well known, Their worth has been seen as their large sale can tell; Thousands can vouch for it, thousands have shown That the best bots are Hi-press That Bowring does sell.—adv.

As a token of Remembrance a Portrait of the giver is long cherished and thought more of than the usual ordinary gift. J. C. PARSONS, Bank of Montreal Building.—nov17,tf

Thrilling Experiences at Cambrai.

The Courageous Conduct of American Soldiers Attracted Much Attention in Friday's Fighting.

The "British Front," December 2.—Correspondents can recall no previous time when army engineers have undergone such varied and thrilling experiences as on Friday. The latest reports say that several Americans who were actually captured by the Germans escaped after a few hours and made their way back to the British lines. In the first rush of the German into Goussenoire, many engineers were caught between the opposing lines as the British surged forward to meet the shock. It was a tense situation for them. There was no escape from the rapidly narrowing zone between the two armies. The Germans already were firing their rifles steadily, and the engineers knew that the British would also open up with a heavy fire. But even in the stress of the moment the British officers sized up the situation and before starting to shoot, signalled to their allies to lie flat on the ground. The engineers dropped where they stood, and in another instant a steady stream of rifle and machine gun bullets was whizzing over the mud. The British pushed forward far enough to enable the engineers to join their ranks, and thus saved them. But these engineers and others, repaid the score, for they took their place in the fighting and battled like tigers.

The fame of the exploit of the engineers spread rapidly through the army and the correspondent has heard them talked about on every side, their magnificent service having been received with the dearest appreciation everywhere. Paris, Dec. 3.—The Havas correspondent at the British front, describing the formidable German attacks before Cambrai on Friday, in which he asserts eleven, or possibly twelve enemy divisions tried to encircle the British, only falling because of the vigor of the counter attacks, says: "The courageous conduct of a number of American soldiers attracted much attention. They were pioneers and specialists engaged in construction work on railroads. When the enemy appeared Friday morning they exchanged their shovels for rifles and cartridges and fought alongside the Tommies. Several fell gloriously but their hands facing the foe. No man who saw them at work but praises glowingly the coolness, discipline and courage of these improvised fighters."

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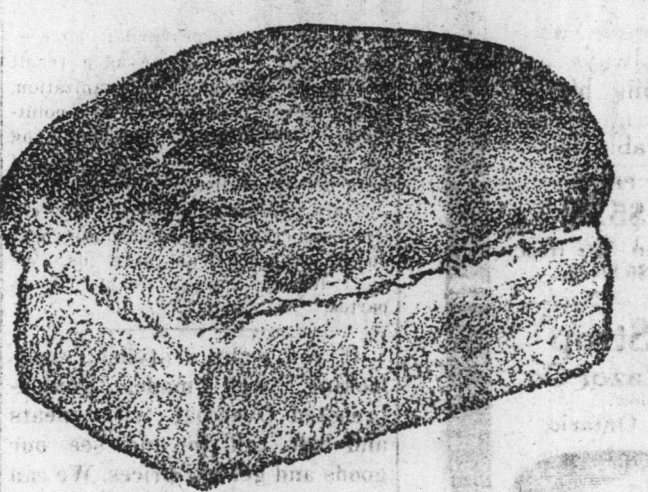
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