

The Evening Times Star

VOL. XIV., No. 61

PAGES ONE TO EIGHT

ST. JOHN, N. B., TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1915

SIXTEEN PAGES—ONE CENT

Distressed Halifax People Sheltered Just In Time To Avoid Sufferings of Zero Weather  
Mont Blanc Captain Makes First Statement

SHOOT LOOTERS AT SIGHT  
THE ORDER BELIEVED  
ONE HAS PAID PENALTY

Frederic Comeau Has Half Mile Ride In Air On Lumber Pile And Lives To Tell Of It; F. P. Gutelius On Way With Relief Train

Halifax, N. S., Dec. 11.—The relief committee had only completed the work of removing refugees from tents and other fragile quarters to substantial buildings last night when the weather conditions changed with characteristic suddenness and an extremely cold spell set in.

The tremendous snowstorm which raged yesterday afternoon and part of the evening rendered the transportation problem acute, but the relief workers refused to be baffled and by midnight everybody was housed in premises that will at least protect them from the wind, snow, rain or frost, that seem to be alternating here.

During the night the temperature fell to nearly zero, but reports from the refugee homes indicated that nobody was suffering.

The organization of food and clothes supplies for the refugees seemed to be running very smoothly today again. The matter of undesirable visitors is being applied rigorously. The question of the food supply, which threatened to become serious, has been solved.

Halifax, Dec. 11.—The troops patrolling the devastated districts have orders to use every effort to prevent looting. If a looter makes any attempt to escape the instructions are that the patrols must shoot. There was a rumor in the city last night that in one instance this order had been obeyed to the letter. A high military authority had no information to give regarding the authenticity of the rumor but said that it was true that the order existed and would be observed.

Halifax, Dec. 11.—After being blown through the air, a Frederick Comeau, a soldier, though badly injured, was today able to tell of his impressions during his remarkable flight.

Comeau was on guard on the waterfront when the explosion took place. He was high in the air, and dropped him a quarter of a mile away.

Comeau was quite conscious during his passage through the air, and recalls thinking of what was going to happen when he struck the ground again.

The lumber under him seems to have broken his fall. Both of his legs were fractured and a large piece of steel entered his side.

He was picked up and taken to a hospital and ultimately was operated on by the Massachusetts doctors who have taken over Bellevue, the old military headquarters here. The steel was taken from his side and his broken limbs set.

Relief Trains Arrive.  
The C. P. R. train sent to Halifax by St. John last night, the Eaton train from Toronto got in this morning. The food supplies and clothing on the C. P. R. train were immediately unloaded and distributed around the relief stations.

A message of sympathy on behalf of the Methodist Church of Canada from Rev. Dr. Chown, was received last night by the mayor.

A Challenge in Relief.  
Schenebady, N. Y., Dec. 10.—A local Halifax relief committee announces tonight it will rebuild one of the workingmen's houses at Halifax at a cost of approximately \$5,000, and issues a challenge to the other cities of the United States to take similar action.

Speeding Board of Control.  
Montreal, Dec. 10.—The city council tonight passed a resolution urging the board of control to make all possible haste in finding relief to the Halifax sufferers.

Kingston, Ont., Dec. 10.—This afternoon a party of nursing sisters left for Halifax to assist in the work. The party was sent by Lieut. Gardner, A. M. S., and includes Nursing Sister F. Prince, in charge, and Nursing Sisters M. Hicks, S. A. Filson, D. Arnold, G. Werden, A. Van Laven, L. McKeown, F. Lindsay, F. Kennedy, A. Gibson (all from Kingston); E. Graessman and J. Johnson, from Ottawa.

Well Done, Massachusetts.  
Boston, Dec. 10.—A second ship load of supplies for the relief of Halifax was assembled in this city tonight in readiness to go forward tomorrow. The cargo, valued at between \$70,000 and \$80,000, was gathered by the Massachusetts relief committee on receipt of advice from its representatives in Halifax as to what was most urgently needed. In addition to shoes, clothing, rubber goods, roofing and window glass, a transportation unit of ten motor trucks was included. Each truck will have its own skilled chauffeur, gasoline supply and repair kits, so as not to draw upon the overburdened city in any way upon its arrival.

Notices were sent broadcast today by Mrs. Nathaniel Bayer, chairman of the women's committee of the state council

AGED WOMAN  
ALIVE IN RUINS  
AFTER 60 HOURS

Remarkable Incident Gives Hope to Anxious Ones

MASS FUNERALS DAILY

Frost After Snow Storm Retards the Work of Grave-digging—Dry Dock Badly Wrecked and Many Lives Lost There—Arresting of Germans Goes On

Halifax, Dec. 11.—Remarkable escapes of people caught in their homes in Richmond have been reported. A large number of women and children were found on Friday and Saturday. After all hope had been given up that the ruins contained anybody alive, an old lady was found beneath her home late on Sunday. She was the mother-in-law of Maurice Shea. She was saved after sixty hours imprisonment in the ruins of her home. Mr. Shea was searching for his family and discovered the dead body of his wife and three children. He had given up hope of finding his mother-in-law when he found a groan from beneath the floor of the house upon which rested the fragments of the walls and roof of the place. Securing assistance, he pried up the flooring and discovered his mother-in-law. She had apparently been lying on an electric iron wire and pinned her in a chair. She was unconscious, but alive, with no bones broken. She is now on the road to recovery.

This remarkable escape has given renewed hope that other victims may still be alive in the ruins.

Heart-breaking Work.  
Those who are officially working at Richmond and enduring frightful sights have their feelings further harrowed by the appearance of half-frenzied relatives, indifferent to personal danger, seeking with tear-blinded eyes, for some slight trace of their missing relatives, turning over with frantic hands the mass of brick and wood that once meant home to them. Many return to this occupation again and again, alternating with weary rounds of the hospitals and morgues, unable to rest or give up the search so long as there is no certainty. Lists of out-of-town hospitals and shelters are eagerly scanned for names in, and the looked-for name is not there, the company of the train, which has been donated by his company.

All Want to Help.  
Montreal, Dec. 11.—The following cities yesterday decided to send aid to Halifax: Guelph, Ont., \$2,000 as a first grant. Further amounts to follow if necessary. Sarnia, Ont., \$1,000. Winnipeg, \$25,000 instead of \$10,000, already voted. Vancouver, \$25,000. Hamilton, \$5,000 in addition to \$2,500 already forwarded. Cobourg, \$1,000. In Edmonton.

Edmonton, Dec. 10.—Following a general meeting of civic and government representatives, Premier Stewart today issued an appeal to the citizens of Edmonton and the people of Alberta for generous support for the relief of Halifax sufferers.

Finders Brother Safe.  
Fredericton, Dec. 11.—Y. N. C. Hawkins, manager of the Bank of Montreal, Fredericton, returned from Fredericton last night. His brother, Dr. Hawkins, and family, escaped injury.

The Marysville town council voted \$500 for Halifax relief work last night.

CANADA'S DEADLY PERIL

"There has never been a stage of the war when the situation was as serious as it is today. There never was a time when it was more necessary for us to be brave and resolute, and when we should do all in our power, not only to support the men at the front, because God knows, every man is wanted, but by saving food in order to relieve the civil population in Britain, France and Italy, but most of all by keeping up the resolute spirit to conquer."

Statement By Captain  
Of Munitions Ship

First Story From the Mont Blanc; Says Imo Was Taking Wrong Course Despite Signals

Halifax, N. S., Dec. 11.—A detailed description of the happenings on the Mont Blanc was issued last night by the master of the vessel, Capt. Lamedoc. He is quoted as saying:

"We had on board the Mont Blanc nearly 5,000 tons of freight, mostly explosives. The ballast tanks were filled with water. In the forward hold were stored picric acid; then came a steel bulkhead and in the next hold was T. N. T., a high explosive. We also had T. N. T. in the third hold.

"On top of the forward deck were stored about twenty barrels of benzol, over the picric acid, with a deck in between.

"It was a clear morning. The water was smooth and we were at half speed on the starboard side toward the Bedford Basin. There were no vessels in our course until we sighted the Belgian relief ship Imo coming out of Bedford Basin and headed for the Dartmouth shore. She was about two miles away at the time. We signalled we would keep the Mont Blanc on the starboard tack going up to the basin where we were to anchor. We headed a little more inshore so as to make clear to the Imo our purpose. She signalled that she was coming down on the port, which would bring her on the same side with us. We were keeping to the right or starboard according to pilotage rules and could not understand what the Imo meant. But within a few minutes, hoping that she would come down, as she should, on the starboard side, which would keep her on the Halifax side of the harbor and the Mont Blanc on the Dartmouth side.

"But to our surprise the Imo kept coming on the north side, so we signalled her to stop. She signalled collision and signalled to stop the engines.

HEAVY GERMAN CASUALTIES AS TWO MUNITIONS TRAINS COLLIDE

Occurred In Operation of Massing Troops On The Western Front—British Report Unusually Active Artillery Work

London, Dec. 11.—The Amsterdam correspondent of the Daily Express reports that the Germans are rushing to the western front with the idea of smashing the Entente Allies before America is able to act, and adds: "One of the results of this is that two German munitions trains collided on Thursday. Both were blown up and several hundred soldiers were killed or wounded."

British Report.  
London, Dec. 11.—Unusually active artillery fighting and aerial operations on the western front yesterday are reported in today's official communication. This activity was particularly noteworthy on the Ypres and Arras fronts.

The Airman.  
London, Dec. 9.—(Delayed)—The official statement on aviation activities, issued tonight, reads: "On Saturday night prevented flying until the afternoon, when a certain amount of artillery work and reconnoitering was done. Our airplanes dropped bombs on hostile billets and fired many rounds at ground targets. Two of our airplanes are missing."

Paris, Dec. 11.—"Patrol encounters occurred north of Valenciennes (Champagne)," says the war office statement of today. "Active artillery fighting developed in the sectors of Upper Alsace and Lorraine. Everywhere else the night was calm."

Rome, Dec. 11.—Powerful attempts made by the Austro-Germans to retake the Agogna and Zulfani positions in the Capo Sile region of the Lower Piave river, were singularly repulsed yesterday. Their public engagements with the exception of a meeting here on Thursday night. It is possible, however, that the prime minister before leaving for Ottawa may address the electors of Kings county, where he is the Unionist candidate. Otherwise his series of maritime province meetings, interrupted by the Halifax disaster, have been cancelled.

Caught in Ice.  
Detroit, Dec. 10.—A fleet of tank freighters, estimated to number fully thirty-five, tonight are fast in the ice in the Lower Detroit river, and between here and Port Huron. Not a vessel passed through the river today.

War Tales From Overseas To St. John

Steamer Brings Officers and Men Who Have Played Part Well—This City Represented—Crew of Schooner Picked Up

Interest was manifested this morning when a large ocean liner arrived in port and docked at Sand Point. It had been reported that nearly 1,000 soldiers were on board and that a large number of these were from St. John. Such was not the case, however, as there was only one local boy on board, Pte. Edwin Duddy, who is returning home after seeing considerable service in France. The steamer had 150 passengers, a large general cargo and 2,500 packages of mail and parcel post.

Among the passengers were seven sailors picked up 600 miles from Cape Race. Their schooner had been badly wrecked during a storm and when sighted by the steamer was being buffeted about by the waves, and was in a sinking condition. The men were cared for by the officers on the steamer and are none the worse for their trying time.

The name of the schooner which foundered was the Forbin. She was a three master and was registered at the port of Quebec. She was sighted by the steamer on December 6 and was flying a flag of distress. Those on board who were rescued were: James Bartlett, master; Robert Piercey, mate; H. Bartlett, G. Harwood, W. Hobson and Joseph Compton able seamen. The seventh man saved was Jose Rodinauca, a Portuguese, who was a stow-away on the schooner.

Some present were opposed to having the Victory Loan organization handling the collections. Some thought that in a matter of a disaster of this kind that the citizens would respond to an appeal made by the mayor. Others expressed themselves as being in favor of having a canvass made, claiming that the majority of the citizens would expect it. The matter after considerable discussion was passed over to the Victory Loan committee to collect.

There was some talk of establishing a St. John depot in Halifax, but it was decided to collect an amount and forward it to the Halifax committee. H. Estabrooks said that in the course of a few days he had no doubt but that Halifax would have a perfect organization to cope with the situation. He explained that Colonel Moore is a man with experience along these lines. During the San Francisco disaster, he was largely responsible for the excellent manner in which the affairs there were handled.

Lucas was some talk at the meeting of the city assessing for the amount which has already been expended in supplies. This matter, however, will rest for the present. It is not believed that the city will have to take this action, as it is felt the citizens will respond in a magnificent manner.

The mayor reported that already he had received several checks. While the meeting was in session a check for \$100 from D. C. Dawson was received.

H. P. Robinson said that he had already prepared books which he will give to the canvassers and when they receive a donation they mark it down and then for every donation Mr. Robinson will give his personal receipt to the collector. Mr. Robinson said that the work of canvassing will be got under way by tomorrow.

NO WORD OF SIMCOE.  
J. C. Chesley, local agent of the marine and fisheries department, received word from one of his steamers today that search was still being continued for the members of the crew of the steamer Simcoe, but so far nothing has been heard of them. There were forty-five men on the steamer and a large number of these belonged to this city.

Phelix and Pherinand WEATHER REPORT

Issued by Authority of the Department of Marine and Fisheries, H. F. Sturpart, director of meteorological service

Synopsis—Pressure is high over the greater portion of the continent and the weather fair and decidedly cold in nearly all parts of the Dominion.

Ottawa Valley and Upper and Lower St. Lawrence—Moderate west to north-west winds, fair and decidedly cold today and on Wednesday.

Gulf and North Shore—Fresh to strong north-west and west winds, fair and decidedly cold today and on Wednesday.

Decidedly Cold.  
Maritime—Fresh west to north-west winds, fair and decidedly cold tonight and on Wednesday.

Washington, Dec. 11.—New England: Fair and continued cold tonight and Wednesday, moderate west winds.

SENT TO THE STRICKEN.  
The Hebrew Ladies' Aid Society has already raised \$60 with which they have bought underwear and blankets and forwarded the articles to Halifax.

ARRIVED HOME TODAY; HE FOUGHT IN AFRICA

Among those to arrive in St. John this morning from the front, was Corporal E. J. Duddy, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Duddy of this city. Corporal Duddy is a member of the Imperial army and has for the last two years been in German East Africa. He is home on a two months' furlough.

PREMIER CANCELS ALL BUT ONE OF HIS NOVA SCOTIA MEETINGS  
Ottawa, Dec. 11.—Sir Robert Borden, according to information received at Unionist headquarters here, has cancelled all his public engagements with the exception of a meeting here on Thursday night. It is possible, however, that the prime minister before leaving for Ottawa may address the electors of Kings county, where he is the Unionist candidate. Otherwise his series of maritime province meetings, interrupted by the Halifax disaster, have been cancelled.