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CANADIAN CAR EXPLOSION DUE TO INCENDIARY

Company's Statement Intimates Big Disaster Was Result of Plot—Heavy Loss to Russia—Damage Placed at Sixteen Millions and Insurance is High.

NEW YORK, Jan. 12.—Statement that the fire and explosions which wrecked the plant of the Canadian Car and Foundry Co., at Kingsland, N.J., yesterday, was possibly, if not probably of incendiary origin, was issued here today by the officials of the company. The total loss, it was said, was \$16,000,000.

Of this total \$10,000,000 consists of shells and explosives, owned by the Russian government. The rest was in destroyed property of the Canadian Car and Foundry Co., of which half was covered by insurance. Until investigation is completed no further statement will be made as to what evidence of incendiary origin has been found, it was said by an officer of the company.

It was explained that the danger of fire or of explosions from purely accidental causes was reduced to a minimum by the fact that no completed ordnance was on hand at the plant. The officer said the propelling charges for the shells were not attached until they reached the battlefield, and that the same was true as to the detonating caps by which the trinitrotoluol in the shell bodies is exploded.

The explosions heard during the fire, he said, were caused by the melting and expansion from the heat of the trinitrotoluol blowing off the temporary caps screwed in place for the detonating caps.

The buildings destroyed were valued at \$750,000. The value of the contents of the buildings destroyed amounted approximately to \$16,000,000 of which \$6,000,000 belonged to the company. The company was protected to the amount of about \$3,000,000 in insurance on the buildings and contents—the rest is a total loss.

An examination into the circumstances attending the origin of the fire in building No. 30 has created the impression that it is possible, if not probable, that the fire was of incendiary origin. The officials of the company do not wish to make any further definite statement with regard to this until the investigations are completed.

BIG EXPLOSIONS WRECK DUPONT POWDER PLANT

Four Hundred Thousand Pounds of Powder Blown Up at Haskell, N.J.—Two of Company's Employees Missing.

NEW YORK, Jan. 12.—Four hundred thousand pounds of powder was destroyed by fire and explosion at the Haskell, N.J., plant of the Du Pont Powder Co. at 9:30 o'clock tonight. Officials of the company declared after checking up the members of the night shift at the works that only two men were missing. Twelve others were cut by flying debris, but none of them was seriously hurt. No estimate of the loss was obtainable.

The explosions were of terrific force, and were felt for many miles in all directions. The detonations were followed almost immediately by a fire which could be seen as far away as Yonkers and distant points in New Jersey. The Haskell plant covers several acres, and is one of the company's largest.

There were two distinct explosions. Buildings were shaken and windows shattered far out on Long Island and up the Hudson River to Poughkeepsie.

The first explosion was in what is known as "the glazing barrel." The fire which resulted spread quickly to the blending house and from there to three magazines. One of the magazines blew up but the powder in the others was consumed by the flames.

The blazing magazines set fire to the screening house, from which the flames leaped across Wanaque River and consumed three drying houses on the other side. At this point the fire was checked by the efforts of the company's employees.

Other buildings in the plant and many in the village, which was built in a semi-circle around the works, were shattered by the force of the concussion, which was by far the most severe ever experienced at Haskell.

No estimate was available of the number of men at work when the disaster occurred, but as soon as the terror caused by the explosions had subsided somewhat the company's officials began rounding up their men to check the casualties. It is feared that two who were employed in the glazing barrel lost their lives. Rescue parties were quickly organized to search for the injured, and as soon as they were found they were taken to the company's private hospital. All the doctors available were summoned as were the Franciscan brothers from Butler, some distance away.

GREECE ACCEPTS ULTIMATUM WITHOUT RESERVE.

LONDON, Jan. 17.—An Exchange Telegraph Co.'s despatch from Athens says the Greek government has accepted the Entente's ultimatum without reservation. The decision was reached by the crown council Tuesday afternoon, according to the despatch. The release of the imprisoned Venizelists is expected hourly.

GERMAN RAIDER SINKS 19 STEAMERS IN S. ATLANTIC.

LONDON, Jan. 17.—A cable despatch from Buenos Aires says that according to reports from Pernambuco and Rio de Janeiro received here today, a German raider believed to be the steamer Vineta has sunk 19 merchant steamers and two French schooners in the South Atlantic. One British steamer was sunk without warning causing the loss of 400 lives. The survivors of five steamers have landed at Pernambuco. The Brazilian authorities have cabled Pernambuco for further particulars.

\$75,000 FOR PATRIOTIC FUND

Citizens Organize and Suggest Council Grant \$60,000 by Monthly Instalments.

(From Wednesday's Daily)

Last evening a public meeting of the citizens of Belleville held in the council chamber went on record as favoring the granting of \$5,000 per month by the city council for the year 1917 towards the Patriotic fund and the collection of \$15,000 by canvass among the citizens shortly. This makes a total of \$75,000 for the year. The civic contribution would be met by the sale of ten year debentures. Judge Willis presided at the gathering which was quite representative and Mr. Henry Sneyd acted as secretary.

Mr. Hynderman, Field Secretary, addressed the gathering on methods of securing contribution. \$60,000 or \$75,000 would be a fair average for Belleville, said the mayor. Mr. Thos Ritchie asked if the government had not considered administering the fund. The field secretary replied that one objection would be the increased cost of administration. Those doing volunteer work now would refuse to work were the administration federal.

Mayor Ketcheson said Belleville would have to figure upon \$1,000 a month more during 1917 than during 1916. This would bring the contribution necessary up to about \$65,000. Mr. R. Tannahill thought \$75,000 should be called for.

Mayor Ketcheson said last year's civic contribution and the collection among the citizens caused some discussion. Senator Corby pointed out the difficulties as did Judge Deroche. Mr. Ritchie suggested that a canvass be made as soon as possible for \$75,000, the council to make up any deficit by levy or flotation of a loan.

"We regret," said Mr. John Elliott, "that many do not see their duty to the Patriotic Fund. A canvass would get perhaps \$50,000 from those willing to give and the \$25,000 would have to be collected by taxes from these same people, the largest property owners."

One mill would take care of a ten year loan. This should be asked for Mayor Ketcheson thought the fairest way was for the council to give \$5,000 per month. This would not cause a raise in the tax rate, which would be lower than last year's. Besides this we would require \$15,000 in voluntary subscriptions.

Mr. Hynderman suggested a smaller municipal grant and more in voluntary subscriptions. The mayor declared Belleville was not doing anything for its soldiers beyond helping the Patriotic Fund. "We do not insure our soldiers."

Crown Attorney William Carnew in a spirited address attacked the tight-wads, loafers, and shirkers. He urged that almost all be raised by taxation. Every subscription list has the same generous givers and the same workers. The men who are raising the rents should be made to pay. An ordinary laborer can in three days when we are rolling in wealth afford to pay a little extra taxes. Tenants as well as landlords will pay if it is put in the taxes.

There are a lot of people who are not interested. You cannot reach that class. Ex-Mayor Panter said that in the last campaign not more than one-third of those on the voters' list contributed. Those who do not contribute any taxes and those who fill the pool rooms should be made to pay. He suggested a poll tax.

Mr. Sneyd stated that in the last campaign \$26,000 was contributed by 300 citizens, the remaining \$4,000 by 900 people, of which \$2,000 was paid and \$2,000 was unpaid. Now \$1,500 is outstanding. He pointed out the truth of Mr. Carnew's remarks. Certain people do magnificently, but the large majority are untouched. We should pay now, not let posterity look after everything. Ten, twenty, or thirty year debentures will make the returned soldier pay.

Ex-Mayor Walmsley moved, seconded by Ald. Smith that the meeting request the council to raise by taxation \$5,000 per month for 1917, and that voluntary subscriptions be called for to the extent of \$15,000.

Mr. Tannahill said Belleville's giving to the fund to date were about \$65,000, the administration of which had cost only \$48, which is more than met by the interest.

Hon. Senator Corby, moved, seconded by Mayor Ketcheson, that a hearty vote of thanks be tendered to the Patriotic Committee, particularly

Mr. Tannahill, Mr. Sneyd and Mr. A. R. Walker.

In answer to a question, Mr. Tannahill said that not a commissioned officer was on the local lists or on any others, as far as he knew. There were a few such cases reported to Ottawa for special consideration, but these were not local.

An executive committee was appointed as follows: Judge Willis, Mayor Ketcheson, the secretary and treasurer of the fund, Ex-Mayor H. W. Ackerman, Judge Deroche and Crown Attorney Carnew.

The meeting then adjourned until next Tuesday night.

RECRUITING CAMPAIGN Will Open Saturday

With factory whistles blowing, church bells ringing and the brass band playing, the 235th Batt. will open its Citizens Recruiting Campaign at 1 o'clock on Saturday next and the search for men for overseas service will be prosecuted throughout the ensuing week.

Following the parade on Saturday there will be two open-air meetings on Front Street. On Sat. night there will be open-air meetings and recruiting addresses will be made in the various pool and billiard halls. A feature of the Saturday night work will be a torch-light procession.

On Sunday the churches will be asked to devote a part of their services to a direct appeal for men. On Sunday night a recruiting meeting will be held at the Opera House where Major Campbell, chief recruiting officer of this district, Lt. Col. S. B. Scobell, Capt. Evan H. McLean and Sergt. Mellory will speak. The band of the 235th will be in attendance.

Tonight a mass meeting of citizens will be held at the City Hall to organize for the campaign. Mr. D. V. Sinclair will occupy the chair.

RECRUITING IN TRENTON POOLROOMS.

234th Batt. Gets Permission of Proprietors to Put Two Men in Each.

Trenton, Jan. 17.—The 234th (Hastings and Prince Edward Counties) Battalion is introducing a novel method to aid recruiting here. They have secured permission from the proprietors of the pool-rooms here to place a desk in each pool-room with two men stationed there to plead with young men to join the battalion. Some of the leading citizens have volunteered to assist and will make short recruiting speeches to the players and assist the recruiting men in the pool-rooms.

STILL DOING HIS BIT

Driver Charles McCarthy, 14th Battery, C.F.A., son of Mr. and Mrs. J. McCarthy, Dupont St., Toronto, has returned to "Somewhere in France" after a very pleasant ten days' leave spent in London, England, registering at the Maple Leaf Club. This is the first leave of absence he has had since arriving in France in September, 1915.

While in London he paid a flying visit to Bramshot Camp to see his cousins, Ptes. James and Francis Deacon, Station St., Belleville, which no doubt proved a great and pleasant surprise to them.

Driver Charles McCarthy left Toronto in May, 1915 with the Second contingent and after being seventeen months in France has so far come through without a scratch.

The many friends of this brave young soldier both in Toronto and his birthplace, Belleville wish him the same good luck in the future that he has enjoyed during the past.

OSGOODE HALL

In the Supreme Court of Ontario before Hon. Mr. Justice Clute Whitesell vs. Prest—W. C. Mikel K.C. of Belleville, moved for an Order to appoint an Administrator ad litem for the defendant so that the action may proceed.

The claim is for foreclosure of a mortgage and for support and maintenance amounting to \$2371.80. The mortgage was given in January 1907 by defendant who was not of strong mind, with the approval of the court.

Defendant is now confined in the Home for Incurables in Manitoba. Order made appointing administrator ad litem. F. W. Harcourt K.C., official guardian, appeared for defendant.

IVANHOE

The attendance at Beulah Church on Sunday evening was small, owing to the condition of the roads.

Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Kilpatrick of Crookston spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. D. L. Fleming.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Bolton have returned to their home in Chatham, after spending a few weeks with relatives here.

Mr. D. Rollins, of Cooper, spent over Sunday a guest at the home of his uncle, Mr. W. H. Rollins of this place.

The Ivanhoe Women's Inst. held their "at home" at the "Glenwood" last Tuesday evening. A large number were present and all report a good time.

Miss "Lille Wood" spent Sunday at the home of her uncle, Mr. Joseph Wood.

Mrs. John Fox and Mrs. Arthur Jones visited friends at Moira on Saturday.

The Farmers' Institute meetings were held in the Orange Hall here on Friday afternoon and evening.

Private Hector Roy who has been spending a few days at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Roy, left on Tuesday last for Winnipeg, where he is in training for overseas service.

A special meeting of the Township council was held at the home of the clerk, Mr. D. L. Fleming on Saturday evening.

Miss Stella Kilpatrick of Crookston was the guest of her friend, Miss Annie Rollins on Saturday and Sunday.

On Saturday evening the neighbors of this community gathered at the home of Mr. W. H. Rollins to spend a social evening and also to show their appreciation of the sacrifice which his son Fleming has made by enlisting for overseas service. The chair was occupied by Mr. Wm. Shaw and after calling the people to order, and address was read by Mr. Harold Welsh who also presented Fleming with a beautiful wrist watch on behalf of his neighbors and friends Fleming, although taken by surprise made a very suitable reply. In response to the call from the chairman, brief addresses were given by several of those present, and after singing "For He's a Jolly Good Fellow," and a few patriotic pieces, refreshments were served by the ladies. The crowd dispersed wishing Fleming God-speed and a safe return. Fleming begins his training on Monday in Madoc.

A very interesting report of the Boys' Conference held in Lindsay was given by Mr. E. Welsh at the Beulah Sunday school last Sunday afternoon. Mrs. James McKee is ill with a gripe.

Miss Norma Fleming and Mr. Willie Duggan of Madoc High School, spent over Sunday at their respective homes here.

LIBERAL ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meetings of the West Hastings Liberal Associations (Provincial and Dominion) will be held on THURSDAY, 25th JANUARY next, at 2 p.m. at the Hastings Liberal Club, Belleville, for the election of officers and general business.

In the evening at 8 p.m. a meeting will be held. Messrs. Conant, ex-president of the Federation of Liberal Clubs, Nelson Parliament, M.P.P. and W. D. M. Shorey will be the speakers. A good program of music will be rendered.

Dated 15th January, 1917.

Jos. Tomperton,
John H. Carr,

Secretaries

F. E. O'Flynn,
M. Wright,

Presidents.
\$16.20, 23.24, 113.

SOLDIERS WENT WILD.

Some five soldiers, fed up with "dope" from a drug store, not with liquor, raised a row in the Canning Factory last evening and almost went mad in their destructive energy. Finally they were overpowered and landed in the city police cells until morning.

This morning the men were given short terms in the jail by the O.C.

ONLY SON ENLISTS.

Lorne, the only son of Mr. and Mrs. W. Hubbell, Smiths Falls has enlisted with an Ottawa battalion. Mr. Hubbell resided until about a year ago at Marmora where he conducted a milling business. He was the Liberal candidate for the Commons in West Hastings at the last Federal election.

Mr. H. M. Gross and daughter Marten have returned to their home in Regina, Sask., after a pleasant visit with Mr. and Mrs. E. T. Cherry.

TEUTONS MOVE ON THE LAST BIG CITY OF ROUMANIA

Carry Town of Vadeni, Six Miles Southwest of Port—Many Attacks Fall—Allies Crush Endeavors to Advance on Sereth and near Riga.

LONDON, Jan. 15.—Fighting desperately in bad weather, the Germans continued the struggle in Rumania, and, after failures in many parts of the line, they drove back the Russian advanced posts on the front between Vadeni and Kotimikali, on the Serth, towards Galatz, the important Rumanian business centre. The Russian official communication of today abandoned the villa of Kotimikali and the German official communication of last night says that the German troops have also occupied Vadeni. This point is about six miles southwest of Galatz.

The Russians say that this offensive was undertaken by three regiments of the enemy, supported by artillery. This is a force of 12,000 infantry when the units are completely up to strength.

The Germans also claim that they took a summit of a peak in the Otuz valley with 50 prisoners, but the Russians say that the attacks of the enemy on the Slonki River and south of the Otuz River were repulsed.

The Russians and Rumanians crushed two attempts of the enemy at an offensive at a point four miles west of Braila and twelve miles south of the confluence of the Slatina and Trotus rivers, and also near Radulesci, about seven miles east of Fokshani, in both cases by their superiority of fire.

The Germans claim that a Russian advance on the Sereth, northwest of Braila, was repulsed.

RUTHLESS U-BOAT WARFARE URGED

U.S. Interference Will Not Avail, Cologne Zeitung Boasts—May Seize Steamers—London Discusses Possibility of Request Being Made to Neutrals.

LONDON, Jan. 15.—According to a report received here from Berlin last night, the Cologne Zeitung said in its issue of today:

"If our offer of peace is refused the word will be 'out with the submarines.' Then no American will be able to prevent us forcing peace on the enemy who has no wish to negotiate with us."

"The German Chancellor has adopted as a program the principles of the rights and freedom of all nations, great and small, and of the free seas."

In London some speculative discussion is heard over the possibility that renewal of the ruthless U-boat warfare would be met by an entente request to neutrals to seize interned shipping.

Herr Ballin is quoted as saying that only a weak statesman would be deterred from using an efficient war weapon for fear of losing the German shipping interned at various ports. There are said to be some 275 German ships which have found shelter in neutral harbors.

The proceedings in the House of Commons which some persons profess to link with Herr Ballin's words were confined to a question by the Unionist member from West Toxteth, Mr. Houston, who asked Lord Robert Cecil whether he was aware that many of the interned German steamships were potential commerce destroyers.

GOVERNMENT WILL TAKE OVER MINES

Strong Action at Fernie Certain Unless Operators Give Way—Men's Cause Upheld—Operators Fail to Realize War's Obligations, Says Official Statement.

OTTAWA, Ont., Jan. 15.—If government action is necessary to prevent suffering in the prairies and keep the smelters supplied with coke, action will undoubtedly be firm and vigorous. In view of the financial strength of the mine owners, government action, if found necessary, will no doubt be carried out at the expense of the operators.

This radical proposal was announced in an official statement issued by the government today in connection with the strike trouble at the Fernie coal mines. Government operation of these mines now seems certain. The operators have refused to grant the men an increase in wages, and the miners have intimated that unless their demands are acceded to they will go on strike tomorrow. The operators are still in the city, but the representatives of the men have gone home.

JAPANESE CRUISER BLOWN UP CASUALTIES EXCEED 300

Fire on Tsukuba, Lying in Yokosuka Harbor, Causes Magazine to Explode—Great Majority of Crew Safe.

TOKIO, Jan. 15.—The Japanese battle cruiser Tsukuba was destroyed by an explosion yesterday in the harbor of Yokosuka. Fire on the Tsukuba caused the magazine to blow up.

One hundred and fifty-three members of the crew of the Tsukuba were killed and 157 injured, many of them seriously. Numerous members of the ship's company were rescued from the water. Most of the officers of the cruiser were ashore. The cause of the explosion is not known.