

APPALLING DISASTER OCCURS AT ENTRANCE TO VALETTA HARBOR

Steamer Catches Fire and Over 100 Burned to Death

Fire Spreads With Great Rapidly—Crew are Powerless

Many Englishmen on Board, but 100 Were Arabs

VALETTA, Island of Malta, Nov. 25.—A terrible disaster, in which more than a hundred persons lost their lives, occurred at the entrance to this port this morning within sight of the whole population of the city, who were powerless to give aid. The British steamer *Sardinia* of the Ellerman line, sailing from Liverpool, and bound for Alexandria, with a crew of 44 Englishmen, eleven first and six second class passengers and nearly 200 Arab pilgrims aboard, caught fire and within a few minutes was a roaring furnace, surrounded by clouds of black smoke, through which flames burst upward to a height of 200 feet, from frequent explosions in the hold.

Fire Spread Rapidly

So rapidly did the fire spread that the frantic efforts of the crew, to operate the fire apparatus proved useless, for it seemed but a moment before the upper decks and masts crashed down on the deck, while the ship's boats were crushed by the falling debris and set on fire and quickly burned.

Safety lay only in the water, but no one could save himself except by jumping overboard and taking chances of being picked up. The vessel was hurrying to the harbor and from the shore, but the work of rescue was greatly impeded by the strong tide that was running. Even the naval launches, which came as fast as they could be driven, were unable to go alongside. Among the Arabs there was a panic that could not be controlled. Many of them were too terrified to jump and were burned to death. Others, casting themselves into the waves, were drowned.

Crew Behaved Well

The crew behaved with admirable courage, serving out life preservers to the last and working the pumps. When the pumps failed, the captain, Chas. Littler, commander of the *Sardinia*, took the helm and directed his ship toward the shore so long as it could be navigated. He perished at his post. First Officer Frank Watson, all three engineers, Seagraves, Hlopoff and Neel, eighteen of the ship's company and two first class passengers, one of them a boy named Grant, are missing. Fifty or more bodies have been recovered and seventy persons were rescued. It is impossible at present to say just how many were drowned or burned to death, because the list of Arab pilgrims is incomplete. He perished at the rocks at the mouth of the harbor. She was still burning this afternoon and will be a total loss.

The British vice-admiral, Sir Ashton Courzon-Howe, and Admiral Fisher directed the rescuing boats, which did directed work in saving those who were yet alive and bringing the bodies of the dead ashore. Captain Littler's body, which was terribly mutilated,

FRANCE IS NOW THE WORLD'S BANKER

Her Accumulation of Gold Attracting Europe

—Amounts to \$665,000,000

PARIS, Nov. 25.—The rapid and enormous accumulation of gold by the Bank of France during the past year is attracting the attention of Europe. At present the amount is \$665,000,000, which is an increase of \$123,000,000 in the last year. Considerable of this amount has, of course, been drawn from the United States on account of advances during the panic of 1907. Heavy balances have, however, been withdrawn from Germany, and there is a tendency in some quarters to give this a sinister significance, although it is true enough that France is much better prepared financially for war than her neighbor.

Bankers argue, however, that it is poor financing to accumulate such a vast amount of coin, which is lying idle, because the banks' discount loans amount only to \$240,000,000. It is true that all events that France is now in a position to act as the banker of the world.

was landed this afternoon in the presence of great crowds, who stood with their heads uncovered. The other bodies were also mutilated and burned. Fifty-six of the injured are being cared for in the hospitals.

One of the rescued passengers gave a graphic account of the disaster. "The *Sardinia*," he said, "left Valetta at 4.15 this morning. We were just outside the harbor and the crew was securing the anchor when the cry of 'fire' was heard. Flames could be seen issuing from a ventilator on the port side. A hose was promptly brought up and a stream poured down the ventilator, but this did no good. In less than ten minutes flames were streaming out of the other ventilators. The whole vessel's amidships was wrapped in flames. The Arab passengers were told to leave the hatch to which they were going, but they refused to move. All who remained on board perished, except some of those who jumped into the water.

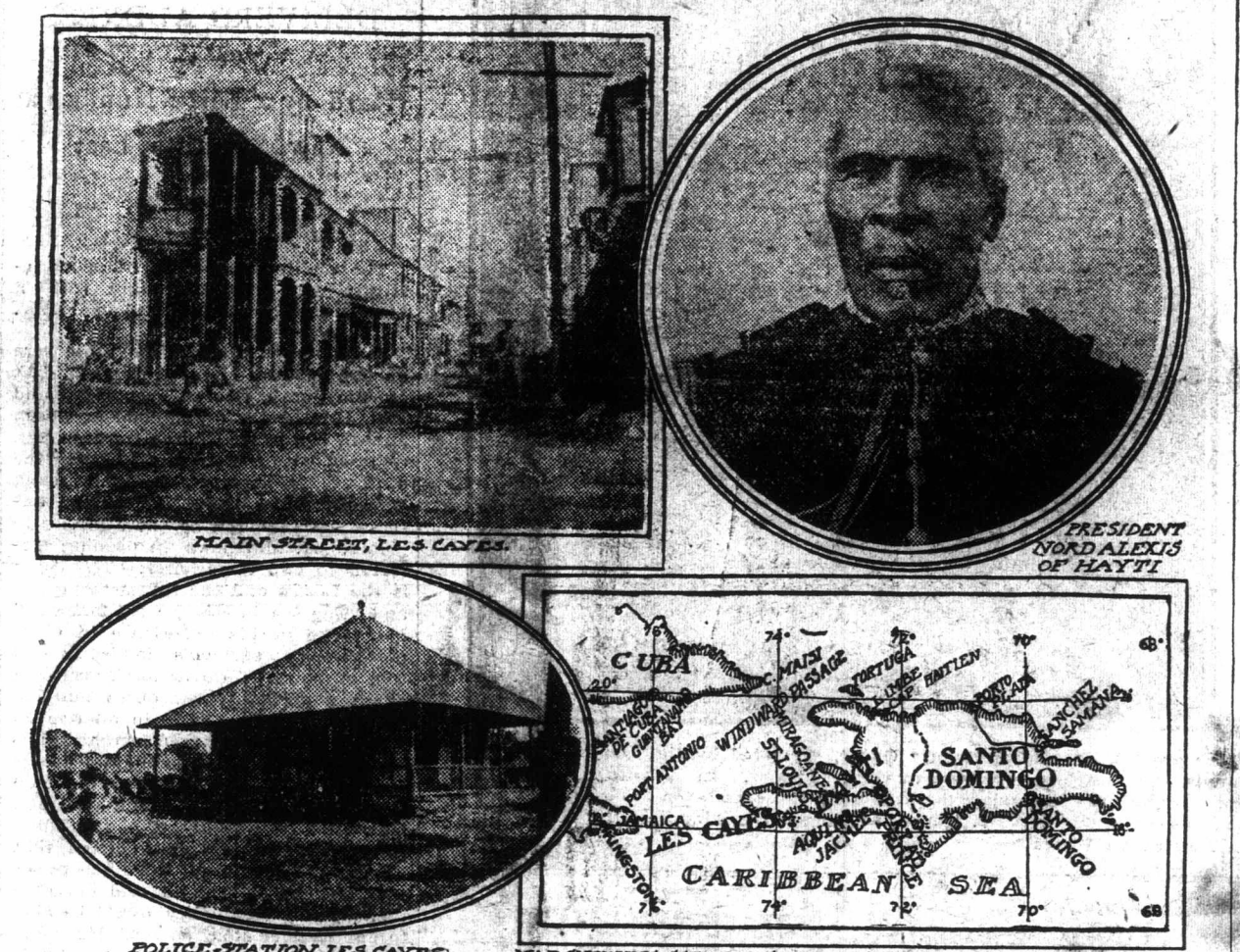
In the meantime, naval pinnaces hurried to the scene. They could not approach closely on account of the high seas and falling spars. The European passengers, being set, were in comparative safety and the great majority of these eventually succeeded in reaching shore. The Arabs, among whom were many women and children, were a terrible spectacle. They clung together, shrieking and but few of them would jump overboard, although urged to do so by the boats waiting to pick them up.

"The ship's boats were rendered useless by the flames, and no attempt was made to get them over the sides. Soon the hatches were blown off with loud explosions, throwing the Arabs into the air and killing and injuring many of them. Amazing good order prevailed among the crew, considering the lightning rapidly of the terrible disaster. After a few minutes had been spent in trying to put out the fire, nothing remained but to jump overboard."

Many of the Arab women behaved with greater calmness than the men, who were utterly panic-stricken. The cause of the fire is not known but denial has been made that there were explosives aboard. Unquestionably, however, explosions occurred and it was first believed that the rapid spread of the flames was due largely to the flowing naphtha.

The *Sardinia* left Liverpool on November 11. She stopped at Valetta, landing a few passengers and taking on the pilgrims. Captain Littler, who was for many years in the service of the line, lived at Birkenhead. He leaves a wife and children.

AMERICAN WARSHIPS DISPATCHED TO SCENE OF REVOLUTION IN HAYTI.



6 STRIKERS SHOT DOWN IN BATTLE WITH 12 SHERIFFS

Keasbey, N. J., Patrolled Last Night by 250 Soldiers—Strikers Threaten to Re- new Attack Today

PERTH AMBOY, N. J., Nov. 25.—Following a pitched battle between 700 strikers and twelve sheriffs today at the factory of the National Fireproof Company at Keasbey, near here, in which six of the strikers were shot down, Governor J. Franklin Fort, in response to a call for troops, despatched four companies of the state national guard at Trenton to the scene and tonight the streets are patrolled by 250 soldiers.

Two weeks ago the men employed by the Raritan River Clay Company struck for higher wages. The strikers marched up the river to the plant of the Perth Amboy Fire Brick Company and induced the men there to go out. Then each succeeding day the strikers constantly greater in number, marched to other towns to induce employees to leave their work.

The strikers declare that before the financial panic they were receiving \$1.50 a day, but when the panic came on their pay was cut to \$1.30 a day. This is the wage today. Nearly all the strikers are foreigners and they say that they were given to understand before election that if Taft was elected their pay would be restored to \$1.50 a day. The officials at the factories say that no such promise was made.

The marching by the strikers caused the situation to become so serious that Sheriff Quackenbush in fifty deputy sheriffs to guard the factories of the National Fireproof Company at Keasbey, the seat of most of the troubles, and a number of smaller concerns down the river.

Intense excitement prevails, for the strikers declare the deputies were not justified in firing upon them. Two of the wounded men are dying in the hospital here and the four other wounded are painfully hurt. Although Keasbey was quiet tonight, the citizens fear for the morning when the strikers threaten to renew the attack on the plant of the fire-proofing company. The strikers complain against troops being sent to Keasbey, and this may lead to further trouble, it is said.

For two days there has been rioting at Keasbey and a number of smaller concerns down the Raritan River.

AUSTRIA DEMANDS THAT THE OTTOMAN BOYCOTT BE ENDED

Kiamil Kocba Tells Marquis Polavicine He is Powerless Against National Patriotism—Turkey Desires the As- sembling of the Conference.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Nov. 25.—Marquis Pallavicini, executing the order of Baron Aehrenthal, today renewed his energetic protest against the continuance of the boycott of Austro-Hungarian products, adding that Austria-Hungary does not intend to renew negotiations before the boycott is ended, although Austria had decided to make great economic and financial concessions to the Porte.

Kiamil Pacha and the Minister of Foreign Affairs expressed regret at being powerless to act against the national sentiment, assuring the Austro-Hungarian Ambassador, however, that the rumor of the participation of the police in the boycott of Austrian products was completely unfounded.

I had an interview with Tewfik Pacha, who made the following declaration:—

"Turkey desires the assembling of the Powers, for it would definitely settle the questions which have been raised. It is considered that an arrangement with Bulgaria has already been arrived at, but it must be submitted to the conference. Fourparties with Austria will be received soon, but are surrounded with difficulties, one

of which is the impossibility of the Turkish government putting an end to the boycotting of Austrian goods, on which Marquis Pallavicini again insisted today, but the government is unable to undertake anything against the aims of national patriotism.

"We consider the incident of the insult to the Turkish flag by sailors of the Austrian stationnaire will have no serious consequences."

The Foreign Minister told me also he would resign if Kiamil Pacha would give up office after the opening of Parliament. Tewfik Pacha has completed fifty years of public service and he thinks he has acquired the right of repose.

STEAMERS COLLIDE.

DETROIT, Mich., Nov. 25.—The steel steamer *North Star* of the Mutual Transit Line of Buffalo, was sunk early today in Lake Huron by a collision with a sister ship, the *Northern Queen*. The *North Star* sank so quickly that her crew had barely time to escape to the *Northern Queen*, which also suffered damage but was able to proceed back to Port Huron.

NO MORE "GRAFT" IN EITHER PUBLIC OR PRIVATE LIFE NOW

FEWER INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS IN CANADA

Government Will Introduce Bill Modelled from England

Criminal Offense to Ac- cept Payment of Secret Commissions

Applies to Agents of In- dividuals as Well as of Government

OTTAWA, Nov. 25.—During October, 241 accidents to work people were reported to the department of labor. Of these seventy-nine were fatal and 122 resulted in serious injuries. The number of fatal accidents was sixty-one less than in October, 1907, and of non-fatal accidents 144 less.

The total number of trades disputes reported to the labor department as being in existence in October was four, which is eighteen less than last year. The loss of time in working days owing to these disputes was 37,880 working days. Three cases were settled during the month, the employers being successful in two cases while a compromise was effected in the third.

T. Yaki, of the National Bank of Japan, Tokyo, has been in Ottawa for some days in pursuance of his mission to investigate the banking system of Canada, it being the intention of Japanese financiers to moderate the banking methods of the empire.

During his stay in Ottawa Mr. Yaki has spent some time with the deputy minister of finance, Mr. Boville, who explained to him the Canadian system. Mr. Yaki is very much impressed with the stability of the banks of the Dominion, and from what he has learned does not hesitate to say he believes the Canadian system to be the best in the world.

From Ottawa Mr. Yaki will proceed to Montreal this week to gather further information of the banking business as conducted in this country.

The award of the Lemieux act board in the case of the locomotive engineers of the Canadian Northern Railway Company establishes an important precedent in that it stipulates that a railway company must provide adequate stopping places for engineers.

It was found by the board that "insufficient provision had been made at points where the engineers are frequently forced to remain over night and that the company had failed to make most inclement weather," and as a result instructions were issued by the company to its superintendents by which the company was to make such provision at such terminal points, where none are now provided, and better the conditions at other well known points."

Japanese Envoy Praises Financial System

—Railways Must Provide Shelter for Employees.

OTTAWA, Nov. 25.—The government has under consideration and will probably introduce at the coming session of parliament a bill modeled on the lines of an act passed by the British parliament in 1906 making it a criminal offense to offer or accept secret commissions with a view of corruptly influencing business transactions in which an employe or agent who accepts the commission is interested. The bill is aimed to prevent the whole system of secret commissions, in connection with private or government business.

It will of course meet abuses shown by the recent investigation at Quebec under Judge Cassels to have existed in the administration of the marine department at that port. The measure has the hearty support of Hon. A. B. Aylesworth, Minister of Justice, and it is understood it has been endorsed by the cabinet in general.

As has been stated, the bill will follow the lines of the British act passed two years ago, and will undergo lengthy discussion in both houses. The bill provides that if any agent corruptly accepts or obtains, or agrees to accept, or attempts to obtain for himself or any other person any gift or consideration as an inducement or reward for doing or forbearing to do any act in relation to his principal's affairs or business, or any person improperly gives or agrees to give or offer any gift or consideration to any agent in relation to his principal's affairs or business, he shall be liable to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years or to a fine not exceeding five hundred pounds, or to both.

UPHAM IS SAFE; SO IS BURCHILL

Hazen Forces are Dead

TAKING NO INTEREST Hurry Up Call Sent to Prem- ier—Opposition Hold Meeting.

WOODSTOCK, N. B., Nov. 25.—Tonight Liberal meetings are being held at Debec, Middle Simonds, Windsor and Centreville. Hon. Mr. Sweney arrived this morning and will speak tonight at Debec with Hon. H. A. McKeown, Hon. C. W. Robinson is at Centreville in the evening. Tomorrow Organizer Copp is expected. The government forces seem pretty dead. Here in town they have not even called their committees together and all their workers seem absolutely indifferent. Throughout the parishes a like condition of lethargy is in evidence.

FIGHTING HARD.

The provincial secretary is fighting hard to awaken his friends, but seems totally unable to arouse any enthusiasm. Mr. Owens is apparently quite serious in his effort to secure election, but the bulk of his party care very little and openly admit the fact. A hurry-up call has been sent to the premier and many others for assistance, but they will scarcely be able to stem the current running so strongly in favor of Uplham.

MR. CARVELL ILL.

Greatly to the disappointment of the whole party and to himself as well, the federal member, Mr. Carvell, will scarcely be able to do any campaigning. Last week he contracted la grippe, and while there are no alarming symptoms his physician has forbidden him to risk any exposure. Hon. Mr. Jones is taking hold of the organization with a competent staff of assistants.

FEW MEETINGS.

CHATHAM, N. B., Nov. 25.—The political situation here is unchanged today. Supporters of Burchill and Swin are getting ready for the contest next Tuesday.

Public meetings will be few in number. Committees that worked for Loggie will be in main support. Burchill and will be assisted by many Conservatives who think he is the best representative to send from Northumberland at present.

Both Loggie and Morrissy are touring the county in the interests of Burchill, whose son Percy Burchill is also taking an active interest in the campaign. Reports from all sections of the county concede the election of Burchill by large majorities, while there are very many who are puzzled over the situation. The candidature of Burchill meets with great favor everywhere.

LIVED THREE WEEKS ON CLAMS.

Terrible Experience of Former Toronto Doctor and Companions.

VANCOUVER, Nov. 25.—A schooner west of Prince Rupert, on Saturday, and brought them here. They are Dr. F. E. Morgan, formerly of Toronto; William Greener, High River, Alta., and George Clements, of Vancouver. The three were fishing when their boat was wrecked off the island, and for two weeks they had been living on raw clams. They suffered terribly from exposure.

LIQUOR DEALERS BEFORE DIBBLEE

WOODSTOCK, N. B., Nov. 25.—The four liquor dealers arrested at the boundary last Friday night came before Magistrate Dibblee yesterday. James White pleaded guilty to three first offenses and one second and paid \$225. Collins acknowledged a first offense and deposited \$50, and Ledbetter had three firsts and a second offense to settle for, which cost him \$225. Rutcliffe was convicted of four first offenses and one second, amounting to a fine of \$300, which he paid.

Tonight there is a big temperance meeting being held in the United Baptist Church to organize a campaign against liquor selling in town. So far Inspection Lindes has secured convictions during the year amounting to over \$1,000. Inspector Colpitts has jurisdiction in the county only and the boundary seems to be the last stronghold of the liquor dealers.

POWERS REACH AN AGREEMENT

PARIS, Nov. 25.—Official advices received here indicate that Bulgaria and Turkey have practically come to terms in the matter of Bulgaria's declaration of independence on the following basis: Bulgaria is to pay Turkey from \$10,000,000 to \$14,000,000 on account of Rumelia, and \$10,000,000 on account of the railroad. The capitalization of the Rumelia tribute and the participation of Bulgaria in the Turkish debt is to be left to the international congress.

ENGLAND WRESTLING WITH EDUCATIONAL PROBLEM

LONDON, Nov. 25.—The third attempt of the Radical government to settle the education controversy was inaugurated in the House of Commons today when President of the Board of Education Balfour, moved the second reading of his education bill. The Minister explained that the measure was a com-

RIFLES

WINCHESTER, 22, 30, 303, 32,
33, 35, 38-55, 40-72, 405, 44, 45, 70, 45-90

AUTOMATIC, 32, 35, 351

MARLIN, 30, 38-55, 44-40, 45-70

SAVAGE, 303, 38-55

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NEW YORK CITY.

BIRTHS

AM—At Torryburn, on Nov. the wife of A. S. Ingraham, a Saturday morning, Nov. 14th, wife of P. M. O'Neill, 204 Main a daughter.

In this city, on Nov. 18th, and Mrs. R. G. W. Steven, a

MARRIAGES

SOMERVILLE—At the bride's parents, Constancy county, on Thursday, by Rev. Frank Baird, LeHebron Finnis to Hattie, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Somerville.

SEEKING DISCONTENT

PRE, Mtd., Nov. 15.—An has occupied the government since last night, including the port master and attendants government employees and officers in the city and the politicians. They went to the request of the admir

ing in the Grand Cafe during several speakers urged to remain quiet until a reply received from the French Ministry to the demands of the. Today another meeting at which there was a question. Many citizens after popular demonstration that the American flag placed at the head of a procession, however, more cordial advice prevailed, and the recently acquired in a default of the military taking further action.

bers of the school about rovers is raising were so supported by the citizens self dependence of the government to keep the schools open. Officials were powerless to m from opening the doors.

WANTED.

ANTED.—Believe men in through Canada to ur goods, tack up show-ces, fences, bridges, and all pieces, also distribute rting matter; commission \$3 per month and expenses steady employment to good n; no experience neces- for particulars. EMPIRE COMPANY, London, Ont.

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